Bengaluru Saturday, November 8, 2025 Pages 26 Vol 78 No 308 ₹8

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DH on Saturday

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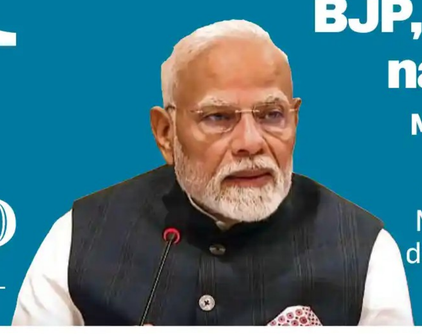
WHACKY VERSE

**Dream team**

*We never cast the high beam*
*On our women's cricket team.*
*They won the Cup*
*So it's all gapchup--*
*The sceptics are now a meme.*



## BJP, Cong spar over national song

**Modi:** Key stanzas of 'Vande Mataram' dropped in 1937

**Kharge:** RSS, BJP never sing it in their shakhas, offices

P10

■ Strays should be moved to shelter post sterilisation | ■ They shouldn't be released to same location | ■ NHAI, authorities should identify highway spots having stray cattle | ■ 24x7 patrols along highways to report on stray cattle | ■ Measures to stop strays from entering institutional area

# Remove stray dogs from hospital, school premises: SC

### Orders shifting of stray cattle from highways to shelters

ASHISH TRIPATHI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Supreme Court on Friday ordered the removal of stray dogs from institutional areas such as educational institutions, hospitals, sports complexes, bus stands and railway stations, and stray cattle and other animals from state and national highways for shifting them to designated shelter homes.

A bench of Justices Vikram Nath, Sandeep Mehta, and N V Anjaria cited the "alarming rise" in dog bite cases within institutional areas and said it is essential to issue directions in the interest of public safety and management of stray dogs.

Among others, the court cited one incident which took place in Bengaluru, wherein a Welsh entrepreneur was bitten by a stray dog during a morning run.

"Even foreign nationals visiting India are falling prey to unprovoked stray dog attacks," the bench noted. "This incident underscores that the menace is neither confined to rural or densely populated localities nor limited to vulnerable citizens, but has assumed proportions that affect public safety, tourism and the image of the country in the global perspective."

The court also noted students from a college within the Bengaluru University campus were bitten by stray dogs while on campus (Kengeri area). Two college students were hospitalised after the attack.

▸ Stray dog, Page 6

GBA plans new dog pounds, Page 2

People walk past a group of street dogs in New Delhi. PTI FILE PHOTO

### Pilot can't be blamed for AI flight crash: SC

**The SC told the father of the pilot who died in the Air India flight crash in Ahmedabad that his son is not to be blamed for the accident, saying there is no insinuation against him.** **Page 11**

DMK's SIR plea in SC on Nov 11, P10

## 3rd farmer killed by tiger; Bandipur, Nagarahole safari, trekking halted

**BENGALURU, DHNS:** With a third farmer falling victim to a tiger attack in one month in Mysuru district on Friday, wildlife safaris in Nagarahole and Bandipur tiger reserves, as well as trekking activities in the conflict areas nearby, were shut down on Friday.

Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre has directed diversion of services of officials and staffers engaged in such activities to rescue the conflict tiger.

The direction for closure "until further orders" was issued to the chief wildlife warden after farmer Chowda Naika (35) from Hale Heggudilu was killed near the elephant-proof trench of Moleyur wildlife range of Bandipur Tiger Reserve in Saragur taluk.

"It is shocking to see yet another death. Farmers in Chamarajanagar had opined that safari activities had disturbed wildlife while officials have flagged staff shortage (to handle conflicts)," he said, announcing the closure of the safari and trekking activities.

According to the directions, the officers and staffers, including drivers engaged in safari and trekking, will be diverted to combing and surveillance operations. The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Project Tiger) has been directed to stay put in the region till the conflict tiger is rescued, the statement said.

Another report, Page 3A

# 800 flights delayed as tech glitch hits Delhi airport

### Issue with flight plan system; AAI says problem solved

NEW DELHI, DHNS

Technical problems with the Air Traffic Control (ATC) system threw operations at Delhi airport into chaos on Friday, delaying at least 800 domestic and international flights that impacted the travel plans of hundreds of fliers.

IndiGo, Air India, Air India Express, SpiceJet and Akasa Air among others said there were delays in their flights to and from the Indira Gandhi International Airport, the busiest in the country handling around 1,500 flight movements daily. At least 20 services were cancelled.

**Some flights affected at Bengaluru's KIA**

**The technical glitch at the Delhi airport led to delays in 14 arrivals and 9 departures at the Kempegowda International Airport in Bengaluru. The flights saw an average delay of an hour, said an airport source, adding that no flights were cancelled.**

The delays in Delhi — which also had a cascading effect on the arrival and departure of flights at other airports across the country — were due to a technical issue in the Automatic Message Switching System (AMSS), which supports air traffic control data, according to the Airports Authority of India (AAI).

▸ Delhi airport, Page 6

## A tumour made him a tireless runner

**A British national, running across India, shares his journey of grit and hope**

Jack Faint was 25 when his life took a sudden turn. He was cycling to work when he suffered a seizure. A battery of tests later, doctors found a rare tumour in his brain. Initially shocked and scared, Faint decided to take control of his life. He changed his diet, started travelling, and took up running. And even as you read this, he is completing his toughest challenge yet — a 4,000-km run from Siachen Glacier to Kanyakumari.

In today's *Saturday Story*, the British national shares what it is like to live normally with a slow-growing tumour. He reached Bengaluru last week after 60 days of running, with just one day of rest. Running enthusiasts following his inspiring journey came to meet him and joined him for a short run. He and his crew received an especially warm welcome in Bengaluru.

But why did he choose India for his longest running expedition yet? Find out.

The SATURDAY STORY

*Full story, Page 17*

# Talk of 'Kamaraj Model' for K'taka Cong

AJITH ATHRADY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

With talk of an imminent political earthquake in November in Karnataka, there is a debate brewing in the Congress on adopting the 'Kamaraj Model' for the faction-ridden party.

Under this model, all the ministers, except Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy CM D K Shivakumar, could be asked to resign and the state council would be cast afresh with new faces.

The debate comes amid speculation about a "November Revolution", which refers to a change of leadership when the Siddaramaiah-headed Congress government reaches the halfway mark.

Siddaramaiah

D K Shivakumar

According to a senior leader in the high command, around 10 leaders in the Cabinet have been serving as ministers for 15 to 18 years since 1990 whenever the Congress government came to power in the state. Shivakumar, for example, became a minister in 1990 in the then government headed by chief minister S Bangarappa.

"Unless the party brings in new faces by replacing senior ministers, we can't groom young leadership," a leader said. "There are a few senior MLAs who have not been able to become ministers even once, while several have been serving as ministers for decades," he said.

▸ Kamaraj Model, Page 6

## GST rate cut spurs record auto sales

**NEW DELHI, DHNS:** Retail sales of vehicles surged by 40.5% year-on-year to hit a record monthly number of 40.23 lakh in October led by strong demands boosted by reduction in GST rates.

**Details on Page 15**

## GBA: All potholes in B'luru to be filled by Monday

**BENGALURU, DHNS:** After the chief minister's deadline of October 31, Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) officials now say that the majority of the potholes in the city will be filled by November 10.

"We have filled close to 18,000 potholes. Potholes in most arterial and sub-arterial roads have been filled," said Chief Commissioner, GBA, Maheshwar Rao. "There may be a few potholes at the ward level and we will work on filling them as well. Over the next three days, we will take up a major drive to finish filling potholes," he said.

**Details on Page 2**

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Dr. Praveen R, Pro Vice Chancellor | Dr. Mohan Babu G N, Registrar | Dr. T R Subramanya, Dean, SOLS | Dr. V J Praneshwaran, Director, SOLS

## Quickly

### Kurnool bus fire: Owner held, out on bail

Nearly two weeks after the Kurnool bus tragedy that claimed 19 lives, V Kaveri Travels owner Vemuri Vinod Kumar was arrested on Friday morning. However, the Kurnool special mobile court judge granted bail to Vinod with a self bond.

Details on Page 10

### HAL, GE Aerospace ink engine deal

The Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) on Friday sealed a major deal with GE Aerospace to procure 113 jet engines for its Tejas light combat aircraft programme. Under the deal, the delivery of the F404-GE-IN20 engines will begin from 2027 and the supplies will have to be completed by 2032, officials said.

Details on Page 10

### Ajit Pawar son's land deal cancelled

In a damage-control exercise, the Devendra Fadnavis-led Maha Yuti government in Maharashtra on Friday scrapped the illegal land deal in Pune involving Ajit Pawar's son Parth Pawar even as troubles continue to mount for the Deputy CM with the Opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi rooting for his resignation or dismissal.

Details on Page 10

Dr. Thumbay Moideen
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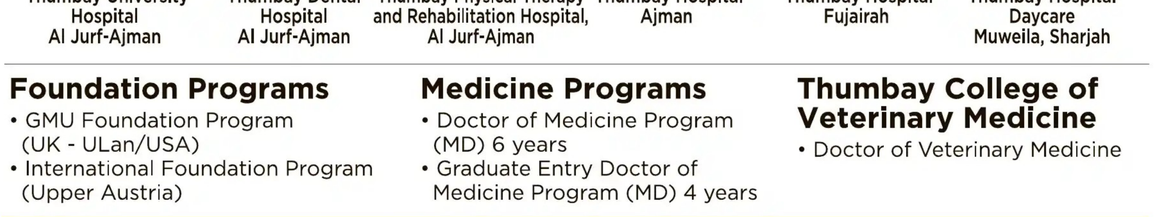

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FINES, FEAR AND FRICTION

# Bengaluru's struggle for clean streets

## BSWML's garbage-dumping drive sparks debate, while officials see this as a tactical move to fix the issue

SHREE D N
BENGALURU, DHNS

Bangalore Solid Waste Management Limited (BSWML), the parastatal tasked with waste collection, hit the headlines not only in Bengaluru but across the city when videos of garbage being dumped in front of people and on the roadside were caught on camera.

Was such a step needed? Was it drastic? Or should it be seen as a pressure tactic?

"Yes.. It was very much needed and should be scaled up and made a regular process. These violators need to be named and shamed for being anti-social," says Kochhu Sankar, a senior citizen volunteer, who also coordinates Horamavu RWA Collective.

However, he also thinks BSWML should be taken to task for auto tippers not reaching on time for door-to-door collection and for not being empathetic to residents who need an alternate way to dispose of waste.

"Such an extreme step can be implemented only where the contractors handle garbage collection. If garbage collection is not happening as per the rules, the concerned officials need to be punished by having garbage dumped in front of their respective houses. If this can happen, then only levy a fine on the normal public," says Datta Saraf, a citizen activist from Nagarabhavi, Bengaluru.

Rakhi Anil, who was active in the non-governmental space in handling dry waste, agrees with this.

"First, they should conduct proper citizen awareness campaigns in wards and ensure that collection vehicle times are fixed. Then they should fine those found dumping. Only then should they resort to such drastic measures. The current measure sounds similar to the instant justice of demolitions carried out by UP and other such governments," she says.

Waste being dumped back in front of an apartment whose residents were found dumping waste on roadside.

### 'BSWML itself is breaking the NGOG rule'

"The Solid Waste Management rules stipulate 'no garbage on ground' (NGOG) rule, which has been raised constantly by the National Green Tribunal, high court and supreme courts in cases related to garbage collection and disposal. How can a government body dump waste and break the NGOG rule?" asks Balasubramanian, the president of the BBMP Garbage Contractors Association.

He points out that many households depend on maids who finish their work only by 9.30-10 am, by which time the collection autos would have moved on.

"If the autos go on collection duty at a time convenient for people, they do give the waste to the autos. We have fixed issues in slums in Tippasandra, Domlur and Appareddy Palya by spreading awareness. People gave waste to the autos at 6.45-7 am, after this," he explains.

He calls the 'abhiyana' a ploy to hide the inefficiency of marshals who are tasked with controlling the blackspots. "The monitoring system would have failed in the areas where there are blackspots," he adds, asking the BSWML to fix the collection before dumping waste back on people's doors.

He also says the BSWML is following a top-down approach and has not discussed the issue with stakeholders, such as contractors, ward officials, and the public. Introducing a second round of waste collection in specific areas identified by marshals, pourakarmikas, and ward officials would help solve issues, he feels.

### Will shock change behaviour?

Many believe the shock value will change people's behaviour. However, a behavioural scientist from a premier institute says the impact of such measures can be temporary, and the behaviour won't change until the root cause of garbage dumping in public spaces is addressed.

"Such measures can create subgroups among people who will feel targeted, which can gather public support and cause unrest. City governments in Japan and England have experimented with this, but the result has not been encouraging," says the scientist.

The United Kingdom's Redbridge Council has introduced a 'Wall-of-shame' video series featuring littering offenders caught on camera. The public is asked to identify the offenders. There is no clarity on the impact of this measure.

Japan's Fukushima introduced a policy in March 2025 to name repeat offenders and display their names on a website, but the status of this project is also unknown.

### Intensive cleaning drives as a solution

Bengaluru North City Corporation has undertaken a mass cleanliness drive covering flyovers, bus shelters, main roads, junctions, underpasses, and roads. The seven assembly constituencies will compete to get the cleanest assembly constituency award.

Senior officials will assess the results today based on visual cleanliness and the amount of waste collected. Teams that effectively carried out tasks such as filling potholes, disposing of construction debris, managing waste, controlling mosquitoes, and clearing encroachments from footpaths will be identified. A total of Rs 5 lakh has been set aside for this, with Rs 1 lakh for the first prize.

Sunil Kumar Pommala, Bengaluru North City Corporation Commissioner, sees this as a step that sets an example of what visual cleanliness looks like and spreads awareness and enthusiasm among the public.

"We should be right in our approach, only then can we fine the citizens for not falling in line. This is my thought. I'm hoping this drive will set an example for the rest of the city," says Sunil Kumar.

Feedback:
pointblank@deccanherald.co.in

## Under pressure to fix a legacy problem

Bengaluru's struggle to fix the garbage issue has been historic, leading to landmark judgements on waste segregation and modifications to solid waste management rules. However, in the city, for the marshals monitoring waste disposal in wards, residents littering public spaces and creating blackspots is a perennial problem that fines have not fixed.

Rajbir Singh, chief of marshals operating under BSWML, says there are only 224 marshals for solid waste management, hence they depend on citizen surveillance and CCTVs to catch offenders. "Citizens record videos and send them to us, after which we identify and fine them," he adds.

A marshal superintendent who did not want to be named told *DH* that marshals face threats, especially from influential people. Trying to control the elements that dump on the street, they live a risky life, prone to rude behaviour and other dangers.

"Sometimes people behave rudely and ask us who permitted us to videograph them when they're caught red-handed littering. The absence of street lights in peripheral areas can be a challenge at times. If we chase people coming in vehicles to dump garbage, we can't chase them. If something, such as an accident, happens in the process that will be on us," he adds.

Has the BSWML been doing enough to raise awareness? Marshals have been fining offenders often and collecting fines for a long time.

### BSWML clarifies

Karee Gowda, the chief executive officer of BSWML, clarifies that the dumping of garbage in front of offenders' houses or establishments is not a 'festival' but an awareness drive. "It does not cost us extra. There is no financial loss. We have collected Rs 5 lakh from 357 offenders until now," he adds.

Officials from Bengaluru North City Corporation inspecting a blackspot.

"We have conducted this drive only where auto tippers go and collect waste," he clarifies, adding that there is no proposal for a second round of waste collection, because such a system would significantly increase collection costs.

Kasa kiosks with a four-way segregation bin system would be provided wherever there are blackspots, thereby helping the public put their waste away if they miss the collection, he reveals.

"The new garbage tender will solve many issues. The current capacity of 750 kgs will increase to 2 cubic metres in the new tender, and there will be four-way segregation compartments for wet, dry, sanitary, and inert waste. This will solve the issue of autos becoming full by the time they reach homes," he adds. The BSWML is also removing sofas and commodes dumped on the roadside, thereby improving the city's visual cleanliness.

At the heart of the issue is the BSWML's commitment to segregation at source, which is important for managing waste scientifically. The BSWML officials took the media on a tour of the waste-to-energy plant in Bidadi, which was a product of an agreement between Karnataka Power Corporation Limited and the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (now Greater Bengaluru Authority).

The city had to supply 600 tonnes of clean, dry waste with a high calorific value as part of the agreement. Officials had also hinted that the city would have more such power plants at the four Integrated Solid Waste Management systems planned, with a scope for 2400 tonnes of clean, dry waste production in the city if waste segregation is 100%.

### 'A tactical step'

An expert working with the government to solve blackspot issues says the issue is not as simple as it looks.

"If I park a vehicle wrongly, as a first step, they slap a challan. I may or may not pay it online. The next step is to lock the vehicle, which inconveniences me, and I pay the fine, but I'll be careful. The third step is to tow the vehicle away, which is even more inconvenient, with additional fines and the effort of getting it back. The BSWML is following the same structure," he says.

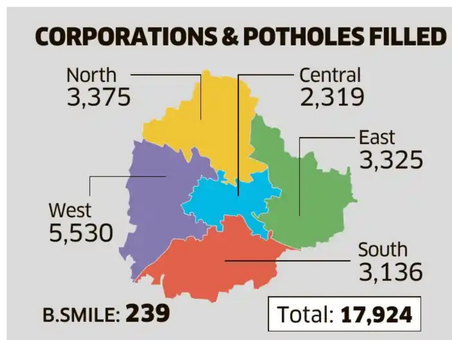
"This is a tactical move, because nothing else has worked. There is helplessness among officials and marshals; they are taken to task regularly by politicians and higher officials, while people break the law with impunity. Biggest violators are really powerful," he adds.

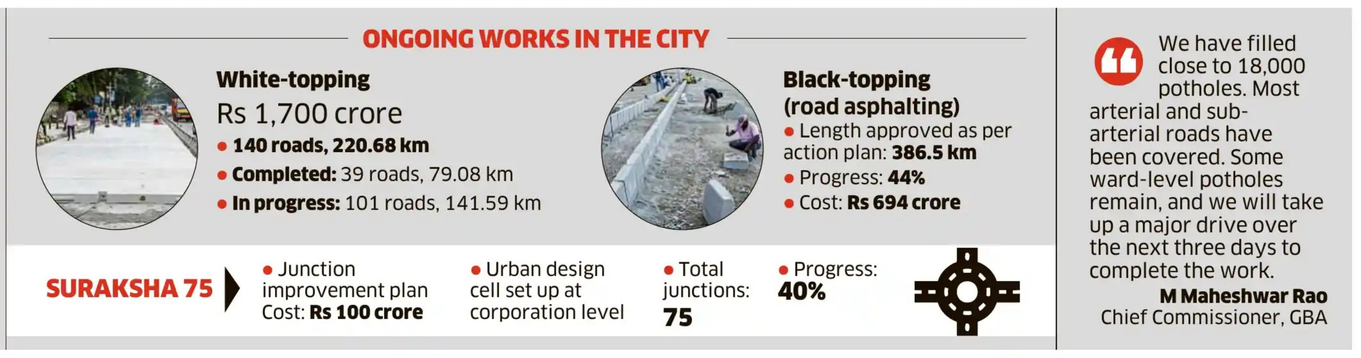
"They have fined only a fraction of households, which has sent a message to 30 lakh houses in the city and to all the offenders. The entire city is talking about it. This should be looked at as a technique to make people fall in line," he feels, adding that there is 'name-and-shame' only on a hyperlocal level, which still sends a message.

# METRO

GBA drives multiple city upgrades — smoother roads, cleaner streets and safer shelters.
Chief commissioner vows close monitoring of key projects in order to ensure timely completion.

# All potholes in city to be filled by Monday





ONGOING WORKS IN THE CITY
White-topping
Rs 1,700 crore
• 140 roads, 220.68 km
• Completed: 39 roads, 79.08 km
• In progress: 101 roads, 141.59 km
Black-topping (road asphalting)
• Length approved as per action plan: 386.5 km
• Progress: 44%
• Cost: Rs 694 crore
SURAKSHA 75
• Junction improvement plan Cost: Rs 100 crore
• Urban design cell set up at corporation level
• Total junctions: 75
• Progress: 40%

> We have filled close to 18,000 potholes. Most arterial and sub-arterial roads have been covered. Some ward-level potholes remain, and we will take up a major drive over the next three days to complete the work.
>
> **M Maheshwar Rao**
> Chief Commissioner, GBA

BENGALURU, DHNS

After missing the chief minister's October 31 deadline, the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) has now set a new target — to fill all remaining potholes in the city by November 10.

"We have filled close to 18,000 potholes. Most arterial and sub-arterial roads have been covered. Some ward-level potholes remain, and we will take up a major drive over the next three days to complete the work," said M Maheshwar Rao, Chief Commissioner, GBA.

Rao attributed recurring potholes to underlying issues such as water leakage in some areas. Following the chief minister's instructions, resurfacing of several roads has also been taken up.

Officials said heavy rains over the last month had delayed the work. Of the 386.5 km of roads identified for black-topping at a cost of Rs 684 crore, 44% have been completed.

The state cabinet recently approved Rs 900 crore for ward-level works. Of this, Rs 200 crore worth of works have already been tendered, while action plans for the remaining amount are being finalised.

GBA Chief Commissioner M Maheshwar Rao along with corporation commissioners address the media on Friday.

NEW DOG POUNDS

## GBA plans new dog pounds, acknowledges facility shortage

**BENGALURU, DHNS:** The Greater Bengaluru Authority plans to expand its capacity to house stray dogs by establishing more dog pounds across the city.

Following a series of stray dog attacks, GBA Chief M Maheshwar Rao admitted that the civic body lacks sufficient facilities to shelter strays. To improve the condition, Rao sought help from animal welfare enthusiasts.

"If anyone can provide us space to set up dog pounds on the city's outskirts, it would be helpful. We are also identifying one acre of land in each corporation zone to house dogs after they are neutered. This will also help contain aggressive dogs," he said.

Rao added that limited space has slowed down the Animal Birth Control (ABC) programme. The civic body is also working to address the shortage of anti-rabies vaccines and is coordinating with health officials.

In addition, the GBA is setting up an animal crematorium.

KHATA CONVERSION

## Lukewarm response to 'B' khata conversion scheme

**BENGALURU, DHNS:** The state government's scheme to convert 'B' khata properties into 'A' khata has received a poor response, with only 1,169 applications filed in the first week of its launch.

The scheme, which opened on November 1 and will remain open for 100 days, aims to regularise 7.5 lakh properties. Officials believe the decision to charge 5% of the property's guidance value as a conversion fee has deterred many applicants.

Meanwhile, 7.9 lakh applications have been received for e-khata registration, of which 7.83 lakh have already been approved.

GBA Commissioner M Maheshwar Rao said earlier technical glitches in the e-khata process have been fixed.

"Like any new system, this might have faced initial problems, but they have been addressed, and applications are now being processed faster," he said.

To encourage more citizens to apply for e-khata and khata conversion, the GBA plans to conduct khata camps across the city.

FLYOVER

## Ejipura flyover to open by July 2026

Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) Commissioner M Maheshwar Rao said the Ejipura flyover is likely to be completed and opened by July 2026.

"The Karnataka High Court has issued orders on land acquisition. We are working on it, and I'm monitoring the work personally," Rao said.

Of the 2.38-km stretch, 1.35 km has been completed so far. Rao added that the Hoskerehalli and Yelahanka flyovers will also be opened soon.

WASTE COLLECTION

## 60 more 'kasa kiosks' planned for 24x7 waste collection

**BENGALURU, DHNS:** After the success of the 'kasa kiosk' initiative at Adugodi, the Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited (BSWML) will establish 60 more kiosks across the city.

These kiosks will allow residents to deposit waste at any time of the day, eliminating the need to wait for the morning auto-tipper collection. Officials said the move aims to curb roadside dumping and reduce the number of black spots in the city. "The kiosks are planned at strategic points close to black spots," a senior BSWML official said.

In addition, BSWML will prepare a ward-level dashboard to track the type and quantity of waste generated, said GBA Commissioner M Maheshwar Rao.

"We need to know how much wet waste, segregated waste, and other types of waste are generated at the ward level. This will help us monitor the situation better and keep the public informed," the GBA boss said.

Rao admitted that collection and segregation facilities need improvement and added that steps are being taken to strengthen the system.

## Tech hub or tractor trail? Panathur's dirt track goes viral; residents vent ire

**BENGALURU, DHNS:** Panathur Road has once again drawn attention after a viral video showed residents struggling to commute on a stretch so battered it looked more like a dirt track, sparking public anger against civic authorities.

The road, currently being white-topped, has remained incomplete for years. The project, approved a decade ago, is yet to take off, forcing residents to use Croma Road, which falls under the jurisdiction of the Railways Department.

In the viral video, commuters can be seen navigating through slush, bushes, and uneven terrain.

Residents accused officials of poor planning and lack of coordination.

Shwetha Rangaswamy, a resident and member of the Individual Tax Payers' Forum, said, "The lack of coordination between the corporation and railways department has pushed us into this sad state of affairs. Riding here is risky."

Another resident said, "It is thoughtless to take up work that would take time and block the entire road without arranging for an alternative route."

Maheshwar Rao, Chief Commissioner of GBA, said, "The works on the Panathur–Balagere Road will be completed within the next 15 days. The road will be of high quality and when completed, it will provide a big relief to residents and commuters in the area."

Snehal Lokhande Sudhakar, GBA Additional Commissioner for East, told *DH*, "Our commissioner has spoken to the Railways Department. We do not have the authority to do any work on their land. Once we have the approval, we will work on it."

Two-wheeler riders on Croma Road in Panathur. The poor condition of this stretch poses a serious risk to the riders. PHOTO: X

A route used daily by commuters.

# Besotted coach stalked 11-year-old girl for months

## Gymnastics trainer arrested after giving child a 'horrid time'

MANJUNATH SHETTAR
BENGALURU, DHNS

A 32-year-old gymnastics coach was so besotted with a 11-year-old girl that he stalked her for months before her parents approached the police and got him arrested.

The suspect, Manjunath SS, conducted gymnastics classes for children in apartment complexes across the city. The girl's parents — both working in IT companies — enrolled her in one such class at their apartment complex in Varthur, southeast Bengaluru, police said.

But barely weeks into the class, Manjunath grew possessive of the girl. He started giving her extra attention, offered additional classes and constantly tried to stay close to her, police added.

Observing his behaviour, the girl became uncomfortable and informed her parents who stopped her training and confronted the coach. But Manjunath didn't stop at that. He began stalking the girl, following her to school, markets and other places to track her movements, police stated.

Police said Manjunath even went to the extent of sending emails to her father to update him on her daily movements and whereabouts. He also used to tell the father that he would feel so happy by seeing the girl from a distance and it was very special.

Shocked over his emails, the parents panicked and started accompanying her everywhere, as the coach had begun following her even to shopping complexes, and ensured she was never left alone.

But when Manjunath didn't stop, the parents filed a complaint with the Bellandur police.

On November 6, police arrested the coach, a resident of Mailasandra in Kengeri, under the Pocso Act and the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) for stalking and harassment.

### What her parents really went through

The girl's mother recalled how the coach's "undue and intrusive" personal interest in their daughter made them so uncomfortable they couldn't move out freely.

"We discontinued her participation in his classes. But he started harassing and and stalking her. He repeatedly called us from different numbers and sent emails containing intimidating and manipulative statements, including threats of self-harm and other delusional claims intended to create fear.

He stalked our daughter's school bus, and at a frequent traffic stop, he would call out her name and perform gymnastic moves to attract her attention," the mother stated.

The coach even followed the mother and the daughter into a nearby toy store.

Although the apartment terminated Manjunath following the family's complaint, he joined another residential community where he allegedly repeated similar behaviour with another minor. He was terminated from there too.

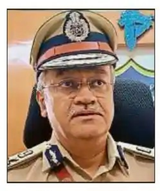
### DCP: Check trainers' background

K Parashuram, Deputy Commissioner of Police, (Whitefield), told *DH*: "Parents must verify the background of trainers before sending their children to classes — be it music, dance, gym or any extracurricular activity. They should also regularly seek feedback from their children. If they notice any suspicious behaviour from trainers, they must alert the police immediately."

# Top cop to e-commerce firms: Report crimes by delivery staff

BENGALURU, DHNS

With rising incidents of crimes involving delivery personnel in Bengaluru, city police commissioner Seemant Kumar Singh on Friday held a meeting with representatives of major e-commerce companies, including Swiggy, Zomato and others, at his office.


Seemant Kumar Singh

The meeting follows a spate of cases in which delivery staff have allegedly misbehaved with customers, engaged in road rage, assaulted customers over delivery delays, and even harassed women during deliveries.

Recently, a delivery worker was arrested for molesting a Brazilian model in RT Nagar while delivering groceries — an incident first reported by *DH*.

During the meeting, officials emphasised the need for companies to thoroughly verify vehicle documents and driving licences of gig workers before onboarding them.

The firms were also advised to use the "Namma 112" helpline to report any suspicious or criminal activities involving their delivery staff.

The commissioner further directed that delivery executives must strictly follow traffic rules while on duty.

The Bengaluru Traffic Police (BTP) shared detailed safety and regulatory guidelines with company representatives to ensure better compliance and safer roads.

# 31-year-old driver slits wife's throat after suspecting affair

**BENGALURU, DHNS:** Suspecting his wife's fidelity, a 31-year-old driver of a travel agency murdered his 20-year-old wife in Amruthahalli on Thursday night.

The victim, Anjali, worked at a vegetable shop, while her husband, Ravichandra, was employed as a driver. A senior police officer said the couple, both from Pavagada, were in their second marriage and lived in a rented house in Amruthahalli.

Ravichandra allegedly slit Anjali's throat with a knife. Neighbours, who heard her screams, rushed to the house and found her lying in a pool of blood.

Meanwhile, beat police noticed Ravichandra running on the main road with bloodstains on his shirt and nabbed him. He confessed to the murder during questioning.

### Fidelity doubts

Police said Ravichandra told them he had seen Anjali talking to another man in the area and enraged by suspicion, committed the crime.

The forensic and Scenes of Crime Officer (SOCO) teams visited the spot and collected evidence.

# Man stabbed to death by friends in drunken brawl

**BENGALURU, DHNS:** A 45-year-old man was stabbed to death by his friends during a drunken brawl over a trivial issue on KR Road, Banashankari, on Thursday night.

The deceased, Suresh, a resident of Thyagarajanagar, was running a small eatery.

Police have arrested three suspects — Velu, Stephan, and Prathap, all residents of Banashankari.

Police said around 9.30 pm, Suresh had gone out drinking with his friends, including Velu, an auto driver. The group continued to drink while roaming around in an autorickshaw.

Suresh allegedly began abusing Velu without reason. Enraged, Velu smashed a beer bottle on a stone and stabbed Suresh repeatedly, killing him on the spot, police said.

# Now, digital-arrest scamsters prop up 'judge' to dupe retiree of Rs 33.7 lakh

MANJUNATH SHETTAR
BENGALURU, DHNS

Moving away from dummy police stations, digital-scam fraudsters faked a virtual courtroom, complete with a "serious-looking" magistrate, to extort Rs 33.7 lakh from a retiree in Bengaluru, police said.

So convincing was the setup that the victim totally went blank and did not suspect anything until he discussed the incident with his family after the WhatsApp video call ended.

"I lost all retirement savings. The court they had created looked real, and the magistrate spoke about legal procedures, so I could not become suspicious," the Subramanya Nagar resident told *DH*.

The "magistrate" initially demanded Rs 20 lakh to grant immediate bail but the victim said he had exhausted his bank account. "I later transferred Rs 10 lakh from my wife's bank account to get off the hook," he stated.

It all began on October 15 when Bhaskar Rao (name changed), a 76-year-old retired private employee, received a phone call from a man claiming to be from the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI).

The caller connected him to another person, who identified himself as Jaiprabhakar Choudhary, a senior officer with the Enforcement Directorate (ED), and accused Rao of money laundering.

The fraudsters went on to place him "under surveillance" for 14 days and threatened to arrest him if he didn't cooperate.

Later, he was connected via video call to one Samadhan Pawar, who claimed to be an IPS officer and an additional director in the ED.

Pawar alleged that a case had been filed against Rao by Naresh Goyal, the managing director of a private airline, and showed him a "digital court notice" that looked genuine.

The fraudsters convinced Rao that his bank accounts needed verification by the Reserve Bank of India and asked him to transfer his funds to designated accounts, assuring a refund within 72 hours. Fearing arrest, Rao transferred Rs 23.7 lakh as instructed.

They later created a fake virtual courtroom where Rao appeared before a man posing as a magistrate. The impostor granted him "bail" and demanded Rs 10 lakh as "court fees" on October 29. Rao complied, only to realise later that he had been cheated of Rs 33.7 lakh in total.

Based on Rao's complaint, the North Cybercrime police have opened a case and launched an investigation to trace the conmen.

## ◆ IN THE CITY ◆

**GENERAL**

**Manotsava:** National Mental Health Festival by Manotsava NMHF; Hotel Lalit Ashok; 10 am.

**Dr K.C. Ramamurthy Memorial Lecture:** 'Constitutional Governance and Public Policy from an Indian Perspective'; Speaker: Justice Aravind Kumar; OMBR Campus; 11 am.

**Creativity of the World of Experience:** Poornachandra Tejaswi, Satyajit Ray; Speakers: Girish Kasaravalli, Vidyashankar, Eeregowda; Bharat Scouts and Guides Grounds; 12.30 pm.

**Crisis in Kannada Language:** Speakers: Rajendra Chenni, Purushottama Bilimale, LN Mukundaraj, Santosh Nayak, Ravindra Bhat, Vasanth Shetty, S Chandrashekhar, Venkatesh Machakanur; Bharat Scouts and Guides Grounds; 2.15 pm.

**CULTURAL**

**Kadalekai Parishe (Groundnut Fair):** Inauguration by Ramalinga Reddy, BK Hariprasad; 'Snehada Kadalalli', a musical tribute to Puttanna; 15th Cross, Malleswaram; 5 pm.

**K.K. Murthy Memorial Music Festival:** Hindustani Concert-'Suran Mein Ras Tum Ho' by Suresh Bapat, Nupur Gadgil, Anuja Jokharkar, Kedar Kelkar, Vyas; Chowdaiah Memorial Hall; from 6 pm onwards.

**'Havaldars at Concert':** Pandit Nagaraj Rao Havaldar and Omkarnath Havaldar on vocals, Sameer Havaldar on harmonium, and Kedarnath Havaldar on tabla; Sri Rama Lalitha Kala Mandira; 6 pm.

## ◆ CITY WEATHER ◆

**FORECAST**

Partly cloudy sky

**TEMPERATURES**

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum | 29.0°C |
| Minimum | 20.0°C |
| Rainfall (as of 8:30 am) | -- |
| Humidity (as of 5:30 pm) | 77% |
| Sunset (Nov 8) | 5:51 pm |
| Sunrise (Nov 9) | 6:15 am |
| Moonrise | 7:33 pm |
| Moonset | 7:55 am |

(Relevant data recorded at 5.30 pm) Source: IMD

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# Fund crunch: Revise taxes or propose fresh ones, depts told

## Govt looking for new avenues to shore up revenue

**REDUCED REVENUE**

- Pressure on govt to look for newer means of earning revenue
- Flagship 'guarantee' schemes have an outlay of Rs 51,034 crore
- Estimated revenue receipts this fiscal are Rs 2.92 lakh crore
- State projected to face a shortfall of Rs 22,000 crore

BENGALURU, DHNS

Citizens may have to pay more to the state government next year as all departments have been asked to "examine and indicate" the possibility of revising existing taxes or proposing fresh taxation.

The finance department, which reports to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, has issued this directive as part of preparing for the 2026-27 Budget.

"Heads of departments have to examine and indicate to the government the possibilities of raising additional resources either by revising the existing tax structure or by proposing fresh taxation," Finance Secretary (Budget & Resources) P C Jaffer has said in a circular.

There is pressure on the Siddaramaiah administration to look for newer means of earning revenue due to financial strain caused by the five flagship 'guarantee' schemes. The schemes have an outlay of Rs 51,034 crore.

In the current fiscal, the state is projected to face a shortfall of Rs 22,000 crore against the estimated revenue receipts of Rs 2.92 lakh crore.

The finance department has also sought more non-tax revenues.

"Non-tax revenue as a percentage of revenue receipts is witnessing negligible growth over the past several years. The non-revision of user charges by administrative departments and the lack of regular/periodic monitoring have led to the Finance Commissions recommending that the mechanism for revising various user charges from time to time should be automatic," the circular stated.

"Similarly, the Administrative Reforms Commission has also recommended in its report that all departments revise the non-tax revenue rates that have not been revised for the last three years, in line with the current inflation index," it stated.

The circular noted that several departments revised cess, fees and user charges "after several years" in 2024-25 and 2025-26.

"This should also be factored into the non-tax receipts for the FY 2026-27. However, departments which have not yet revised their non-tax revenue rates are advised to revise them before the beginning of FY 2026-27 and factor it into non-tax receipts of 2026-27," it stated.

On Thursday, the Revenue Mobilisation Committee (RMC) headed by retired IAS officer K P Krishnan asked the government to rationalise and increase user charges. It said the government faced "challenges in local finance due to outdated guidance values and inadequate property tax revisions".

## Farmer killed in tiger attack in Sargur, 3rd in 13 days

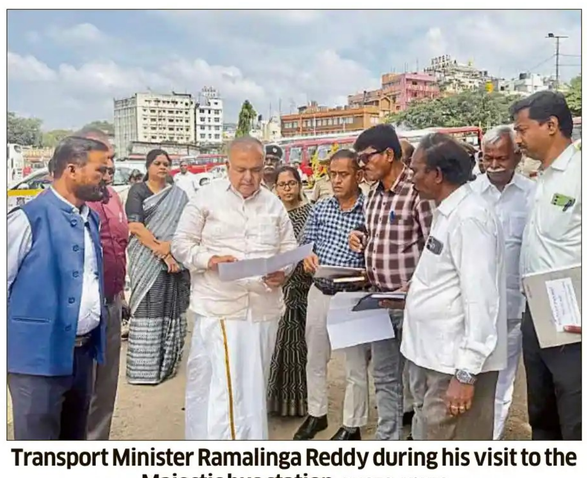
**MYSURU, DHNS:** One more farmer was killed in the latest tiger attack on the fringes of Bandipur Tiger Reserve (BTR) in Sargur taluk of Mysuru district on Friday morning.

Incidentally, it is the third death in the past 13 days and the fourth incident of the tiger attack.

Chowda Naika (35) from Hale Heggudilu was killed near the elephant proof trench of Moleyur wildlife range of the BTR. Villagers claimed that the incident occurred when the farmer was grazing cattle. However, the forest officials suspect that the farmer might have gone there to answer nature's call. The villagers condemned frequent tiger attacks and did not allow the forest department officials to take away the body for autopsy till evening.

About the four attacks in three weeks and three deaths, the officials said that it might be another incidental happening or sudden encounter between humans and tigers. However, it is still not clear if it was the same tiger which attacked the other two people. Two farmers were killed by tigers on October 26 and 31. Combing operations are on to rescue the tigers.

A tiger had attacked a farmer and injured him severely on October 16. This tiger has already been rescued. Its two cubs are also rescued.



Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy during his visit to the Majestic bus station. PHOTO: KSRTC

# Minister inspects Majestic bus station; orders fixing uneven parking area

BENGALURU, DHNS

Responding to complaints from passengers, Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy on Thursday visited the Kempegowda Bus Station at Majestic and directed officials to immediately fix the uneven parking area that causes waterlogging during rains and disrupts the smooth movement of vehicles.

Passengers had earlier brought to his attention that stagnant rainwater was creating difficulties for buses entering and exiting the city's busiest bus station. Taking note of this, Reddy instructed that the work be taken up on priority and later visited the site to personally assess the progress.

During the inspection, Reddy asked officials to complete the repair in the first phase and take up similar measures at two other rain-prone areas in subsequent phases.

### 'Adequate bus service'

He also reviewed the condition of all terminals at the bus station and instructed authorities to ensure adequate bus services for passengers and prevent commercial spaces from remaining vacant.

The minister directed that basic amenities such as drinking water, lighting and clean toilets be properly maintained for both passengers and bus crew.

He also visited the BMTC bus depot and instructed officials to remove vegetation growing on the building and undertake cleaning work.

Senior officials, including the Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation's directors (Personnel and Awareness) and (Information Technology), inspected the drivers' rest area and other facilities.

Department heads from the central office, along with officers and staff of the Kempegowda Bus Station division, were present during the minister's visit.

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that We, **Mr. Aslam Pasha, S/o. late Mahaboob Sab,** residing at Doddakamanahalli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Benglauru – 560 033, have lost the following documents:

**With Respect to Sy. No.13/4, (Old No.13/3), measuring 1 Acre 6 Guntas, situated at Mudiganahalli Village, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District**

| Sl. No. | Date | Particulars |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 28.08.1974 | Sale Deed bearing Doc. No.2540/1974-75, page 46 to 48, Volume No.1147, registered in the office of the Sub-registrar, Devanahalli |
| 2 | 23.11.1974 | Sale Deed bearing Doc. No.3804/1974-75, page 115 to 116, Volume No.1154, registered in the office of the Sub-registrar, Devanahalli |
| 3 | 08.09.1977 | Sale Deed bearing Doc. No.1202/1977-78, page 188 to 189, Volume No.1211, registered in the office of the Sub-registrar, Devanahalli |
| 4 | 07.02.1980 | Sale Deed bearing Doc. No.1450/1979-80, page 199 to 201, Volume No.1244, registered in the office of the Sub-registrar, Devanahalli |
| 5 | 02.07.1996 | General Power of Attorney bearing Doc. No.180/1996-97, Book-IV page 58 to 62, Volume No.47, registered in the office of the Sub-registrar, Devanahalli |
| 6 | 02.04.2005 | Sale Deed bearing Doc. No.DNH-1-00110-2005-06, in Book -I, stored in CD. No. DNHD45, registered in the office of the Sub-registrar, Devanahalli |
| 7 | 24.02.2006 | Sale Deed bearing Doc. No.DNH-1-06764-2005-06, in Book -I, stored in CD. No. DNHD79, registered in the office of the Sub-registrar, Devanahalli |
| 8 | 25.03.2013 | Gift Deed bearing Doc. No.DNH-1-01400-2013-14, in Book -I, stored in CD. No. DNHD326, registered in the office of the Sub-registrar, Devanahalli |
| 9 | 09.12.2021 | Release Deed bearing Doc. No.BTM-1-04284-2021-22, in Book -I, stored in CD. No. BTMD854, registered in the office of the Sub-registrar, Devanahalli |

**With Respect to Sy. No.28/2, (Old No.28), measuring 1 Acre, situated at Mudiganahalli Village, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District**

| Sl. No. | Date | Particulars |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 01.03.2005 | Agreement to Sell bearing Doc. No.DNH-1-06888-2005-06, in Book -I, stored in CD. No. DNHD79, registered in the office of the Sub-registrar, Devanahalli |
| 2 | 01.03.2006 | General Power of Attorney bearing Doc. No.DNH-4-00222- 2005-06, in Book -IV, stored in CD. No. DNHD79, registered in the office of the Sub-registrar, Devanahalli |
| 3 | 04.03.2006 | Sale Deed bearing Doc. No.DNH-1-06994-2005-06, in Book -I, stored in CD. No. DNHD80, registered in the office of the Sub-registrar, Devanahalli |
| 4 | 25.03.2013 | Gift Deed bearing Doc. No.DNH-1-01399-2013-14, in Book -I, stored in CD. No. DNHD326, registered in the office of the Sub-registrar, Devanahalli |
| 5 | 09.12.2021 | Release Deed bearing Doc. No.BTM-1-04284-2021-22, in Book -I, stored in CD. No. BTMD854, registered in the office of the Sub-registrar, Devanahalli |

Despite of diligent search, the above-mentioned documents have not been traced. The complaint of the same has been lodged at the Hulimavu Police Station on 23.10.2025 vide Lost Report No. 1863209/2025 in respect of registered document pertaining to Sy. No.13/4 and Lost Report No. 1817619/2025 in respect of registered document pertaining to Sy. No.28/2. Anyone who finds the above documents or has any information regarding the same is requested to kindly contact me at:

**Contact Details:**
Phone: 7619313708
Email/Address: soumya12124@gmail.com

Date: 03.11.2025
Place: Bengaluru Rural District.

Any person adversely dealing with the said documents will do so at their own risk.

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**EASTERN RAILWAY**

**E-Tender Notice No.: MC_EnHM_AWWP_SEALDAH_25, Dated: 03.11.2025** Sr. Divisional Environment & Housekeeping Manager, Eastern Railway, Sealdah, Room no. 56, 1st floor, DRM Building, Kaizar Street, Kolkata-700014 invites sealed Open Tenders on "SINGLE PACKET SYSTEM" in prescribed tender forms from reputed contractors with adequate experience and financial capability for the under mentioned work: **Name / Description of Work** : "Installation of an Automatic Wheel Washing Plant at NACC Goods Shed"; **Tender Value (in Rs.) :** ₹ 48,59,240.00; **Earnest Money (in Rs.):** ₹ 97,200/-; **Preiod of Completion (in days) :** 365; **Cost of Tender Documents (in Rs.) :** 0.00; **Bidding Start Date:** 11.11.2025. **Date & Time of Closing of Tender :** 25.11.2025 at 15:00 hrs.; **Date & Timing of Tender Opening :** 25.11.2025 at 15.15 hrs.; # Bid Security Declaration in lieu of Bid Security / Earnest Money Deposit is allowed in this tender, the provision has been made in IREPS for the bidder to mandatorily submit the declaration along with his offer (RB's letter no. 2020/CE-I/CT/3E/GCC/Policy, dt. 30.12.2020). Tender document and any corrigendum if added including e-tender notice and eligibility criteria of the work may be seen and downloaded from **www.ireps.gov.in** (Website URL). No manual offer will be accepted.

SDAH-251/2025-26

**Tender Notice is also available at websites : www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in**

Follow us at : @EasternRailway @easternrailwayheadquarter

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**TO WHOMSOEVER MAY IT CONCERN**

The general public is hereby notified that my client intends to purchase the immovable properties mentioned in the schedule below from Sri. K.H. Veerabhadraiah, who has represented that he is the absolute owner of the said properties which is free from all encumbrances, security, charge, mortgage, etc. and that the same is not the subject matter of any agreement for sale or any other dealing with any third party and that he is within his absolute right to sell the said properties.

Anybody having any claim over the said properties is called upon to bring the same to the notice of the undersigned Advocate within 7(seven) days from the date of this publication, in the absence of which my client will proceed to purchase the said properties bona fide believing the above representation of Sri. K.H. Veerabhadraiah, to be true.

**SCHEDULE PROPERTY**

All that piece and parcel of the immovable Property bearing Agricultural Dry Land Survey No.136/1A, measuring 2-00 Acres, Survey No.136/1B Measuring to an extent of 1 Acre 32 Guntas including 02 Guntas Of Kharab and Survey No.136/1C Measuring 2 acres 25 Guntas, including 02 Guntas Of Kharab, total all properties measuring an extent of 6 acres 13 guntas , situated at Koogenahalli Village, Dodabelavangala Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District.

**Smt. A. Hemavathi,** Advocate
No. 07, 1st Floor, 1st Cross, 3rd block, Kumar Park West, Sheshadripuram, Bangalore-560020. M No: 9740370202
Date: 07/11/2025.

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**झारखण्ड सरकार**
**पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमण्डल, हजारीबाग**

**अल्पकालीन ई–प्रोक्योरमेंट सूचना**

ई–निविदा प्रसंग सं० :– **RCD/HAZARIBAG/1037/2025-26**
दिनांक :–**07.11.2025**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | कार्य का नाम | पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमण्डल, हजारीबाग अन्तर्गत "नौडीहा–बड़ागोसाई चौक (कल्लु चौक सिन्दुर पथ पर) से शेख भिखारी मेडिकल कॉलेज एवं हॉस्पीटल पथ भाया जयप्रकाश सेन्ट्रल जेल (कुल लम्बाई 1.425 कि0मी0) का पुनर्निर्माण कार्य (भू–अर्जन, युटिलिटी शिफ्टींग एवं वृक्षारोपण सहित)"। |
| 2. | प्राक्कलित राशि (रूपये में) | रू॰ 8,05,17,705.00 (आठ करोड़ पाँच लाख सत्रह हजार सात सौ पाँच रूपये मात्र) |
| 3. | कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि | 04 (चार) माह |
| 4. | वेबसाईट पर निविदा प्रकाशित होने की तिथि एवं समय | 14.11.2025 10:30 AM |
| 5. | निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय | 20.11.2025 12:00 Noon |
| 6. | निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय | 21.11.2025 12:30 PM |
| 7. | निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले का नाम एवं पता | कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमण्डल, हजारीबाग। |
| 8. | प्रोक्योरमेंट पदाधिकारी का सम्पर्क नं० | 8709320541 |
| 9. | ई–प्रोक्योरमेंट सेल का हेल्प लाईन नं० | 0651–2446007 |

अतिरिक्त जानकारी के लिए वेबसाईट पर देखें :– http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in
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Tel. No. – 06546-225818

**PR 365508 Road(25-26).D**

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**(CIN: U40108JH2013SGC001702)**
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**fax # 0651-2400483 e-mail :** cesp.jseb@rediffmail.com/**gmsp.jbvnl@rediffmail.com**

**1st Time Extension Notice**

Last date of uploading of bid documents, last date of online submission of tender fee and bid opening date of following tender notice no. is hereby extended as below :-

| Sl. No. | NiTs No. | Extended online bid uploading/ submission end date | Last date of online submission of tender fee and EMD | Technical bid opening date and time |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 211/PR/JBVNL/2025-26 11 KV 3 Pin Type AB Switch 630 Amp. | 19.11.2025 upto 18:00 Hrs | 19.11.2025 upto 18:00 Hrs. | 20.11.2025 upto 18:00 Hrs. |
| 2 | 214/PR/JBVNL/2025-26 Steel Tubular Pole 9 meter | 19.11.2025 upto 18:00 Hrs | 19.11.2025 upto 18:00 Hrs. | 20.11.2025 upto 18:00 Hrs. |
| 3 | 216/PR/JBVNL/2025-26 Accucheck for HT & LT meter testing, Tong Tester for HT/ LT & Multi meter | 19.11.2025 upto 18:00 Hrs | 19.11.2025 upto 18:00 Hrs. | 20.11.2025 upto 18:00 Hrs. |

Further details and corrigendum against the above NITs can be seen on website http:jharkhandtenders.gov.in and may be contacted on Mobile No. 09431135523 / 9430348596/ NIC helpline No. 0651-2400178. Only online payment mode of submission of Tender Fee & EMD will be accepted.

स्वहित एवं राष्ट्रहित में ऊर्जा बचावें। कृपया अपनी शिकायतों को 18003456570(कॉल सेन्टर) पर दर्ज करायें।

**PR No. 363738**

**Sd/-**
**DGM (Purchase)**
**JBVNL**

PR 365529 (Jharkhand Bijlee Vitran Nigam Ltd) 25-26 (D)

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**Rail Wheel Plant/Bela**
**(Distt. - Saran), Bihar - 841221**

**Open E-Tender Notice No.: RWP/STORES /WORKS/ADVT/2025-26/09, Dated: 04.11.2025. Tender No. S_RWP_WH_Dis_25-26_03, Due on 01.12.2025,** "Principal Chief Materials Manager/Rail Wheel Plant, Bela for and on behalf of the **President of India** invites **online "e-Open Tender"**, through Indian Railways E-Procurement Portal (IREPS) **www.ireps.gov.in** for transportation of New finished wheels. **1. Name of work with its location, Qty and completion period :** "Transportation of finished wheel from Rail Wheel Plant, Vill.-Bela, P.O- Arvind Nagar, Dist.- Saran, Bihar to Various units of Indian Railway under distance Slab 1001 KM & above. **Quantity: 30373200.00 MT-KM. Completion period:** 12 months from the date of issuance of LOA, **2. Approx. cost of the work:** Rs. 6,22,65,060/-, **3. Earnest Money to be deposited :** Rs. 4,61,300/-, **4. Tender closing date and time :** 01.12.2025 up to 12:45 hrs., **5. Website particulars, Notice Board location where complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc. :** For full details and submission of bid kindly visit Portal (IREPS) **www.ireps.gov.in**. The prospective firms / bidders submitting bid are advised to remain in touch with IREPS Portal **(www.ireps.gov.in)** for updates including **Addendum/Corrigendum/ Cancellation** with respect to the above tender because no such any notice/information concerned that shall be published in newspaper.

**For Principal Chief Material Manager/RWP/Bela**
**RWP/CPRO/ADVT/2025-26/74**

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**SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY**
**Application Notification No. 565/STBA/11/2025**

The undersigned on behalf of the President of India, invites sealed applications for Engagement of Station Ticket Booking Agents (STBA) at the following Railway Station over Bengaluru Division of South Western Railway for issuing of Unreserved/General Tickets through Unreserved Ticket System (UTS) on commission basis for the period as mentioned against the station :

| Sl. No. | Name of the Station | Station Code | Station Category | Period of Contract |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Heelalige | HLE | NSG-6 | 03 years |

**Last date and time of submission of application : From 10:00 hours to 15:00 hours of 25-11-2025**

**For details log on: www.swr.indianrailways.gov.in**

PUB/619/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26 **Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Bengaluru**

Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets

South Western Railway-SWR SWRRLY @SWRAILWAYHQ @sw_railways

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**SOUTHERN RAILWAY**
**SALEM DIVISION**
**Office of the Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer, Electric Loco Shed, Erode**
**E-TENDER NOTICE**

Online tenders is invited for the following work :

| | |
|---|---|
| **Tender No.** | **SA_A_RS_ED_OT_25_26_11, Dated : 05.11.2025** |
| **Description of work** | **Works contract for Un-loading, loading of equipments (Roof, Auxiliary Motors, Main compressors, Auxiliary Compressors) of electric locomotive available at Electric Loco Shed, Southern Railway, Salem Division, Erode.** |

All details regarding the tender are available at **https://www.ireps.gov.in**
**Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer, Rolling Stock, Erode.**

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**CORRIGENDUM NO. 01**
**AGAINST TENDER NOTICE NO. KIR/ENGG./64 OF 2025, DATED: 01-11-2025**

Please read the modified **tender value for Tender No.- 3** of above subjected NIT on Administrative ground. Details are as under:

| Tender No. | Brief Description of Work | Existing tender value | Modified tender value now to be read as |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | Repairs to Embankment and other ancillary works from Rangapani Base yard under the jurisdiction of Sr. DEN/III/Katihar. | ₹. 3,15,01,761.27 | ₹. 3,15,01,761.19 |

All other terms and conditions of above tender will remain unchanged.

**Divisional Railway Manager (Works), Katihar**

**NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY**
*"SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE"*

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**Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India (AERA)**
3rd Floor, Udaan Bhawan, Safdarjung Airport, New Delhi - 110003, Ph.: 011-24695044

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**STAKEHOLDERS' CONSULTATION MEETING ON DETERMINATION OF TARIFF FOR THE AERONAUTICAL SERVICES FOR SWAMI VIVEKANANDA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, RAIPUR FOR SECOND CONTROL PERIOD (01.04.2025 - 31.03.2030)**

Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India (AERA) has issued Consultation Paper No. 04/2025-26 on 30.10.2025 (which is available on AERA website at URL www.aera.gov.in) w.r.t the Tariff Determination for Aeronautical Services for Swami Vivekananda International Airport, Raipur for Second Control Period (01.04.2025 - 31.03.2030).

In accordance with the provision of Section 13(4) of the AERA Act, 2008, the various proposals of AERA regarding tariff determination contained in the Consultation Paper, are put forth for Stakeholders' Consultation. A Stakeholders Consultation Meeting in hybrid mode (Physical/ Online) in this regard is scheduled on **14th November, 2025 (Friday) at 2:30 PM at:**

**Stakeholders Room, 3rd Floor, Udaan Bhawan, Safdarjung Airport, New Delhi - 110003**

All stakeholders like Passengers/Passengers' Associations, General Public, Airport Operators, Airlines, Industry Associations/Bodies, Independent Service providers for Cargo, Ground Handing Fuel Farm etc., are requested to join the said meeting and give their valuable suggestions/ comments/views on the aforesaid Consultation Paper on tariff proposal of Swami Vivekananda International Airport, Raipur.

Participants joining in person may send their confirmation to AERA by 12 November, 2025 with Name, email address, mobile number, vehicle number by email (to **director- ps@aera.gov.in** and **satish.kr@aera.gov.in**). Online link for participation will be shared on AERA website **(https://aera.gov.in)** before the Stakeholders meeting under Tab "News and Announcements".

**Sd/- Secretary, AERA**

**CBC 03112/12/0011/2526**

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**e-Procurement Cell**
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,**
**SPECIAL WORKS DIVISION,BUILDING CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT,Ranchi**

**CORRIGENDUM**

| | |
|---|---|
| Tender Reference No | NIT -BCD/EE, Special Works Div, BCD, Ranchi -25/2025-26 Date:-24.09.2025, PR No- 362906 Building(25-26):D |
| Name of Work | Proposed Construction of Jharkhand Bhawan at Vashi, Navi Mumbai, Maharastra |
| Corrigendum Tile | (i) Correction in NIT (ii) Correction in SBD Page No- 4 & 29 |
| Corrigendum No- | 01 |

Corrigendum Detail :- (i) Following Corrections in dates have been made on NIT due to Technical and inevitable reason :-

| Sl. No | Items | Previous Date | Revised date |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Date/time of Pre bid meeting | 30.10.2025 | 11.11.2025 at 1.00 P.M |
| 2 | Last Date/time of Receiving of Bid | 10.11.2025 at 1.00 P.M | 25.11.2025 at 1.00 P.M |
| 3 | Date/time of Bid Opening | 11.11.2025 at 1.00 P.M | 26.11.2025 at 1.00 P.M |

(ii) Following Correction has been Made on SBD Page No-4 & 29

· In e- procurement Notice information related to pre bid meeting is added as :-

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 5 | Date/time of Pre bid meeting | 11.11.2025 at 1.00P.M |
| 6 | Place of Pre bid meeting | **e- Procurement Cell**, Room No 326 A, 3rd Floor, Building Construction Department, Jharkhand Mantralaya, Dhurwa, Ranchi |

and serial No- 5,6,7 & 8 Should be read as serial No- 7,8,9 &10 Respectively.

· In Appendix to ITB (Clause Reference with respect to Section -I), Serial No- 11 Should be read as. "The Pre bid meeting will take Place at e- procurement cell, Room No- 326 A, 3rd Floor, Building Construction Department, Jharkhand Mantralaya , Dhurwa Ranchi on 11.11.2025 at 1.00 P.M."

· Other Terms and Conditions will remain unchanged.

**Nodal Officer,**
**e-Procurement Cell,**
**Office of the Executive Engineer,**
**Special Works Division**
**Building Construction Department,Ranchi .**

**PR 365469 Building(25-26).D**

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**PROVISION OF INSPECTION PLATFORM OF 19 NOS. BRIDGES**

**E-Tender Notice No. DCBL/14/2025/ MLG dated: 04-11-2025.** E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works: **Tender No. DCBL192025MLG. Name of work:** Provision of Inspection Platform (Open Web Girder) of 19 nos. bridges under SSE/BR/ Bongaigaon. **Approximate Tender Value:** ₹7,51,14,079.44/-. **Bid Security:** ₹ 5,25,600/-. **Date & Time of Closing of Tender:** At **15.00** hrs. on **26-11-2025** at Deputy Chief Engineer/Bridge-Line/Maligaon. The complete information of above e-tender will be available in website **www.ireps.gov.in**

**Dy.CE/Bridge-Line/Maligaon**

**NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY**
*Serving Customers With A Smile*

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**BIOTECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY RESEARCH ASSISTANCE COUNCIL (BIRAC)**
**(A Government of India Enterprise)**

**NOTICE**

**Ref. Advt. No. 26/101 published in Employment News dated 27th September - 3rd October, 2025.**

In response to the above advertisement, very few applications have been received. Therefore, to have healthy competition and select the most qualified person to the post of Director (Operations), the advertisement is re-opened with the same terms and conditions for a further period of 15 days from the date of publication of this Notice. The candidates who have already applied need not apply again. The application form and other details are available on the Websites: **www.dbtindia.gov.in, www.birac.nic.in.**

**CBC 36302/12/0003/2526**

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**कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय**
**पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमंडल, झुमरीतिलैया**

**शुद्धि पत्र**

इस कार्यालय के द्वारा प्रकाशित निविदा संख्या **25/JMT/2025-26**, PR No. **364235** Left out work of detailed survey, designing and drawing, Construction of 10.0 M dia R.C.C. Intake well cum pump house, Gangway 75.1 mtr. length and 3.95 mtr. wide, Pipe Bridge 70.0 mtr. length and 2.00 mtr. wide, Pipe Bridge 50 mtr. length and 2 mtr. wide, Pipe Bridge 100 mtr. length and 2 mtr. wide Pipe Bridge 60 mtr. length and 2 mtr. wide. 19.50 MLD capacity Water Treatment Plant, Compound wall, Supplying and laying Raw/Clear Water rising main & Laying Distribution Network, , Supplying and Installation of Vertical turbine and Centrifugal pump motor, and Five years Operation and Maintenance with allied works etc. all complete job for work of **Jainagar, Domchanch & Koderma** Block MVS Rural Water Supply Scheme under Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, **Jhumritelaiya** on turnkey basis. Year 2025-2026. (3rd Call) में अपरिहार्य कारणो से निम्न संशोधन किया जाता है। विवरणी निम्नवत है :–

| क्र0 सं0 | विववरणी | पूर्व में प्रकाशित तिथि एवं समय | संशोधित तिथि एवं समय |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | निविदा प्राप्ति (ऑन लाईन बिडींग) की अन्तिम तिथि एवं समय :– | 12-11-2025 को 5.00 बजे अपराह्न | 12-12-2025 को 5.00 बजे अपराह्न |
| 2 | सरकार के सचिव, सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी एवं ई– गवर्नेस, झारखण्ड मंत्रालय, के ज्ञापांक 120 दिनांक 03.10.2023 के आलोक में विपत्र का मूल्य एवं अग्रधन की राशि Online जमा करने की अन्तिम तिथि एवं समय | 12-11-2025 को 5.00 बजे अपराह्न | 12-12-2025 को 5.00 बजे अपराह्न |
| 3 | तकनीकी बीड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय :– | 14-11-2025 को 3.00 बजे अपराह्न | 15-12-2025 को 3.00 बजे अपराह्न |

शेष शर्ते यथावत रहेगी।

(ई0 अनुज कुमार सिन्हा)
कार्यपालक अभियंता,
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमंडल,झुमरीतिलैया

**PR 365511 Drinking Water and Sanitation(25-26).D**

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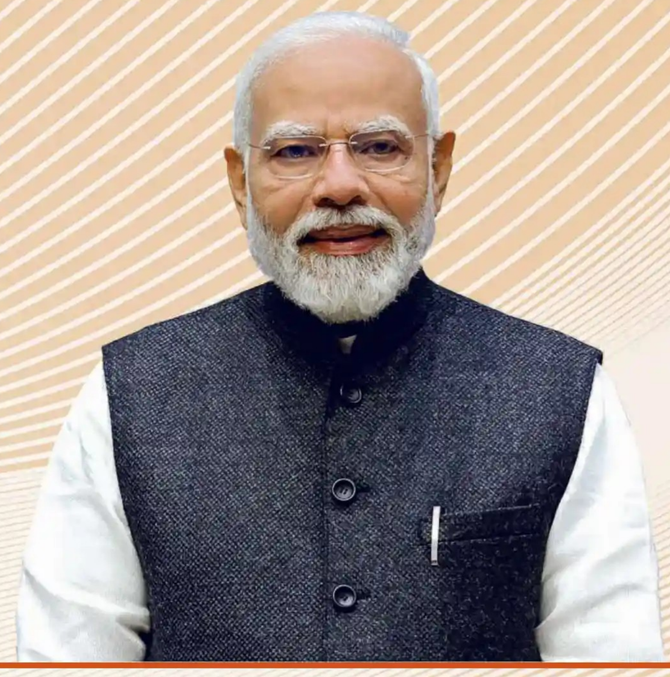
**S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER**

**e-Tender Notice No. 4591-GRC-CE-C-SO-27-2025, dated 06.11.2025.** e-Tender is invited by Chief Engineer(Con)/S/Garden Reach-700043, S.E.Railway for and on behalf of the President of India for the following work. Following tender has been uploaded on website **www.ireps.gov.in** The tender will be closed at 12.00 hrs. on due date. **Brief Description of Works :** Request for Proposal (RFP) for Appointment of Project Supervision Services Agency (PSSA) for Providing Project Supervision Services at Various Construction Sites/Sections in the jurisdiction of Dy. Chief Engineer/CON/II/ Kharagpur, Construction Organisation, South Eastern Railway. **Approx. Cost :** ₹ 9.66 Crore. **Bid Security :** ₹ 6,33,100/-. **Completion period:** 24 months of Construction Period over various projects and 6 months of Defects Liability Period. **Closing Date :** 28.11.2025. Interested tenderers may visit website **www.ireps.gov.in** for full details/description/specification of the tenders and submit their bids online. In no case manual tenders for these items will be accepted. **N.B. :** Prospective Bidders may regularly visit **www.ireps.gov.in** to participate in all other tenders. **(PR-811)**

# Vande Bharat Expands Its Horizon Towards Viksit Bharat



## Flagging off of

## 4 NEW VANDE BHARAT EXPRESS TRAINS

- **Ernakulam – Bengaluru**
- **Banaras – Khajuraho**
- **Lucknow – Saharanpur**
- **Firozpur – Delhi**

by

## Narendra Modi

Prime Minister

## Salient Features

- Time to reach 160 Kmph speed is 140 seconds
- Better heat ventilation and air-conditioning duct for silent & equal distribution
- Equipped with KAVACH (Train Collision Avoidance System)
- Luxurious, comfortable, smooth and safer ride
- Bio vacuum toilets with touch-free amenities
- Seat handles provided with Seat numbers in Braille letters and Special Lavatory for Divyangjans
- Passenger Information and Infotainment System in every coach
- Better fire-fighting safety measures in all coaches
- Emergency lighting, windows and Talk Back units in all coaches

## Benefits

Enhance regional connectivity | Reduce travel time | Provide passengers with modern, comfortable and efficient travel options | Promote regional development, tourism, and economic growth

## In the august presence of

**H. D. Kumaraswamy**
Union Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries

**Ashwini Vaishnaw**
Union Minister of Railways, Information & Broadcasting, Electronics and Information Technology

**Saturday, 08th November, 2025** | **08:00 AM** | **Banaras, Uttar Pradesh**

# INDIAN RAILWAYS

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# KDA chief decries lowering of pass marks as 'fatal to Kannada'

BENGALURU, DHNS

Kannada Development Authority (KDA) Chairman Purushotham Bilimale speaks during the meeting of the Kannada Awareness Committee in Bengaluru.

The state government's decision to reduce the minimum passing marks in the SSLC and PUC examinations to 33% has drawn sharp criticism from the Kannada Development Authority (KDA) Chairman Purushotham Bilimale. He termed the move "extremely unscientific" and "fatal to Kannada language learning."

Presiding over a meeting of the Kannada Awareness Committee in the city, Bilimale asserted that the reduction, primarily aimed at achieving parity with central curriculum schools, would strip language learning of its necessary seriousness. "This decision will be detrimental to Kannada language learning in education in the coming days. Everyone should oppose this," he stated.

Bilimale further lamented that the decision would negatively impact the creation of a skilled society, arguing that the state's students are already lagging behind in 21st Century skills. He called for an urgent reform to make the state's education system relevant to the modern era.

The KDA chairman also expressed strong objection to the government's failure to subject the State Education Policy (SEP) report to public debate, six months after it was handed over by a committee of education experts. He urged immediate steps for the adoption of the SEP, which he believes contains the most advanced teaching methods needed for Kannadigas to face global competition effectively, especially through public-private partnerships.

Reinforcing the call for pro-Kannada action, senior writer Baraguru Ramachandrappa stressed the need for the KDA to formulate a comprehensive "common Kannada guideline."

He emphasised that the policy must be legally valid to protect the language in challenging times when service sectors are rapidly transforming into business sectors.

Ramachandrappa concluded that the focus should shift from looking at people based on language to looking at language through the people. "If Kannadigas are saved, they will save Kannada," he said, advocating for creating a system where learning Kannada is mandatory for securing employment in the state.

He appealed to the government to provide special grants to private institutions running Kannada medium schools.

# CM fixes Rs 3,300/tonne for sugarcane; govt to pay Rs 50

## Siddaramaiah to lead delegation to prime minister

BENGALURU, DHNS

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah announced on Friday that Rs 3,300 (Rs 3,250 by factory owners, Rs 50 by the government) would be provided to farmers for each tonne of sugarcane with a recovery rate of 11.25%.

The decision was taken after the chief minister held extensive discussions with sugar factory owners and farmers' representatives.

For around a week, farmers in the Kittur Karnataka region have been protesting and demanding Rs 3,500 per tonne for sugarcane.

Addressing reporters after the discussions, Siddaramaiah said: "I have decided that Rs 3,300 will be provided per tonne of sugarcane with a recovery rate of 11.25%. For a recovery rate of 10.25%, Rs 3,200 will be provided per tonne. Most of the sugar factory owners have agreed, though some had reservations. I have requested them to cooperate with the distressed farmers." The formula devised on Friday by the government is Rs 100 more than what was proposed by the Belagavi deputy commissioner (Rs 3,200 for 11.25% recovery rate and Rs 3,100 for 10.25% recovery rate), which the farmers had rejected. According to government data, six crore tonnes of sugarcane is expected to be produced this year, while 5.6 crore tonnes were produced last year.

Siddaramaiah

Siddaramaiah also noted that sugar factory owners had placed some demands. These include increasing the minimum support price (MSP) from Rs 31 to Rs 41 and increasing the export of sugarcane from 10 lakh to 20 lakh tonnes, both of which are in the domain of the Union government.

### Delegation to PM

The chief minister noted that he would lead a delegation of sugar factory owners and Karnataka MPs to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi and discuss these issues.

Earlier on Friday, Siddaramaiah, Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar, Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H K Patil, Public Works Minister Satish Jarkiholi, Sugar Minister Shivanand Patil and others held discussions with sugar factory owners, who included BJP leader Murugesh Nirani.

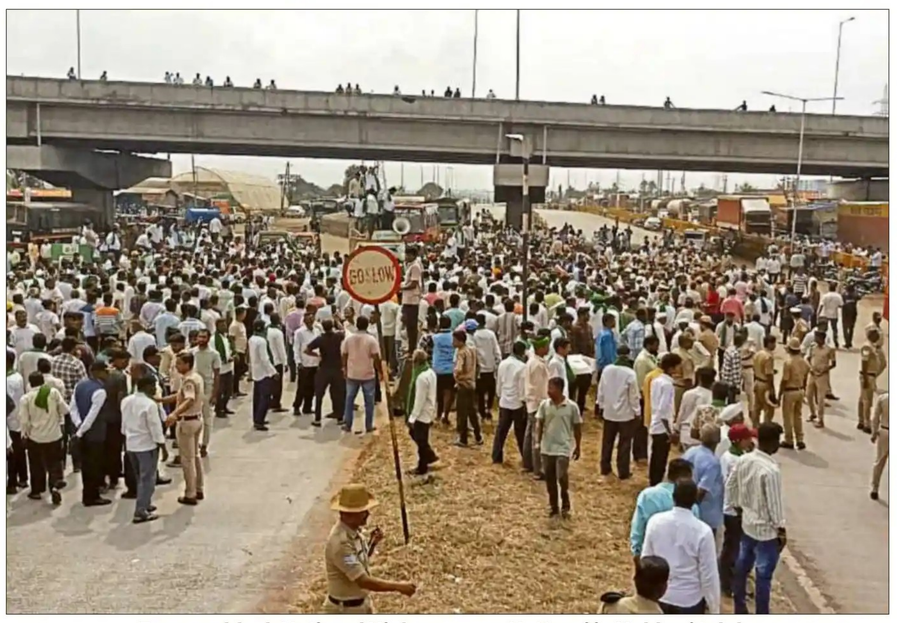
During the discussions, sugar factory owners complained that the MSP had not been increased for six years, and that the price of ethanol had also not been increased.

Stating that electricity was being purchased from sugar factories at Rs 6 per unit in neighbouring Maharashtra, the owners sought a similar scheme in Karnataka. They also urged the government to repeal the practice of levying 60 paisa tax on each unit, which Siddaramaiah promised to reconsider.

Later, the CM and other ministers discussed with farmer representatives from Kalaburagi, Vijayanagar and other districts. This was followed by a second round of discussions with sugar factory owners, when final decisions were made.

# Decision on sugarcane price evokes mixed reaction amid lack of clarity

BELAGAVI, DHNS



Farmers block National Highway near Hattargi in Hukkeri taluk of Belagavi district on Friday. DH PHOTO

The state government's decision on Friday to fix Rs 3,300 per tonne of sugarcane evoked mixed response. The farmers camping at Gurlapur Cross in Mudalagi taluk, where it all started, saw the decision as victory for their nine-day struggle. But there is no clarity on whether to continue with protest or end it.

Earlier in the day, the protests turned violent when the farmers learnt that negotiations with sugar mill owners in fixing MSP for sugarcane price failed. The agitating farmers threw stones on the police vehicles at Hattargi in which five cops, including A DySP, sustained injuries. The protesters blocked the national highway in Chikkodi. They forced a complete shutdown of the town. Similar protests were witnessed at Chennamana Kittur and in many parts of Belagavi and Bagalkot districts.

But the mood changed as the evening dragged on. Sugar Minister Shivanand Patil's announcement that the mill owners have decided to pay the farmers Rs 3,300 per tonne of sugarcane was greeted with widespread celebrations.

The statement by Shashikanth Guruji, the honorary state president of Rajya Raitha Sangha, that the price of sugarcane per tonne was fixed at Rs 3,300, gave way to celebrations at the protest site at Gurlapur Cross.

He told *DH*, "Factories have agreed to pay Rs 3,250 per tonne while the state government would contribute Rs 50. The farmers would get Rs 3,300 per tonne. The relentless protest by the farmers has yielded the desired results. Hence, following the direction by the state president of Raitha Sangha, we are ending our struggle." The farmers have withdrawn the protest. We are evicting the tents erected at the protest site and clearing the state highway for traffic, a police officer told *DH*.

However, there was no clarity among the farmer leaders about the decision taken in the meeting chaired by the chief minister. Even those who led the struggle at Gurlapur Cross, the epicentre of the protests, were in confusion. Raitha Sangha president Choonappa Pujari told reporters that the protesters would take a call only after they receive an official notification on the decision taken in the meeting. Meanwhile, the farmer leaders, not happy with the outcome of the negotiations, have called for Bailhongal bandh on Saturday.

**SIDAGOUDA MODAGI**
Farmer leader

"The developments on Friday were confusing and the agitating farmers are not in a position to take any decision. A delegation of Samyukta Kisan Morcha is visiting Belagavi today (Saturday). The delegation comprising Badagalapura Nagendra, Sirimane Nagaraj, D H Pujar, Gopal Papegowda and Vasanthgowda will review the decision taken by the state government to fix sugarcane price at Rs 3,300 per tonne.

### Protest takes violent turn at Hattargi

**The sugarcane growers' agitation took a violent turn at Huttargi in Hukkeri taluk on Friday morning with protesters throwing stones at police vehicles. Eight vehicles were damaged in a stone-pelting incident.**

**The agitation turned violent when they learnt that the talks with sugar mill owners had failed. They blocked the highway near Huttargi toll booth. When the police tried to evict farmers from the highway, they clashed with the police and threw stones on the vehicles. Four RTC buses and as many private vehicles were damaged while DySP Mahantesh Sajjan, PI Javed Mushapuri and three other officers sustained injuries in the incident, according to the senior police officials.**

# VTU announces PG programme in quantum computing

BENGALURU, DHNS

Considering the growing significance of quantum computing, the Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU) has announced a new postgraduate programme 'MTech in quantum technology' from the current academic year. The VTU has tied up with two main companies - QNu Labs and QPiA, for the new programme

According to Vice Chancellor of VTU Vidyashankar S, the companies will offer free internships to students who enroll for the course. "VTU aims to bridge the gap between academia and industry to create employment opportunities for students," the V-C said.

"Very few institutions in the country offer a course in quantum computing. We are considering launching this course at one of the regional offices - either in Bengaluru or Muddenahalli. We will finalise on the location soon," added the V-C said.

"In the future, quantum will see significant growth. Many jobs will be created in this field, and we want our students to be able to seize those opportunities. That's why we are launching this course," Vidyashankar added.

### Who is eligible?

BTech graduates are eligible to enroll for M.Tech in quantum technology. Preference will be given to those who have completed their degree in Electronics & Communication (EC), Computer Science (CS), or Information Technology (IS).

The university has signed agreements with QNu Labs and QPiA, both of which have expertise in quantum technologies. QPiA specialises in quantum computing, while QNu Labs has extensive knowledge in communication technologies.

Unlike regular MTech courses, this course will be taught by industry experts with specialisation in quantum technologies. After completing the course, the companies will offer internships to the students.

The two-year M.Tech course will include classroom learning in the first year and in the second year, students will receive hands-on training directly in a quantum lab.

"As companies are actively seeking professionals with expertise in quantum technologies, this course is considered essential," says Ajit Padyan, special officer at VTU's Bengaluru regional office.

# State govt transfers senior Forest Dept officials

**BENGALURU:** Amid a rise in the human-animal conflicts, the state government on Friday transferred a number of Forest Department officials in key posts.

Bishwajit Mishra has been made the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (APCCF) of the Wildlife wing, replacing Manoj Kumar Tripathi who was moved to APCCF (Vigilance) cell. Benglauru Rural Deputy Conservator of Forests (DCF) Santosh Kumar G will now replace S Prabahkaran as the director of Bandipur National Park. Prabhakaran, meanwhile, has been promoted to the post the Conservator of Forests, Chamrajanagar Circle.

Anil Kumar Ratan (Forest Resource Management), Saswati Mishra (Personnel and Management) and Vanashree Vipin Singh (Working Plan) were some of the other officials transferred.

# Priyank defends Misinformation Bill at NLSIU dialogue

**BENGALURU, DHNS:** IT/BT Minister Priyank Kharge delivered a keynote address at a policy dialogue hosted by the National Law School of India University (NLSIU) and Ikigai Law on Friday, strongly advocating for the state's upcoming legislation to combat the "weaponised deception" of misinformation and disinformation.

Priyank Kharge

Priyank highlighted the urgency of the matter, describing misinformation and fake news as one of the "gravest threats to democracy, public safety, and social harmony."

He stressed that the bill is aimed at the intentional and corrosive nature of disinformation. Addressing concerns that the upcoming legislation would curtail free speech, Kharge stated that the government's aim is to ensure accountability, not censorship.

He hoped that the Misinformation Bill will be tabled in the Belagavi session and promised that its development involves consultation with the Department of Home and top Indian experts

The dialogue also saw two-panel discussions: the first, "Regulating Speech in Karnataka: A Constitutional Tug of War,". And the second panel, "Tackling Misinformation in Practice: Risks, Responsibilities, and Alternatives," exploring strategies to combat misinformation and balance free expression with citizen protection.

The panelists highlighted the state's proposed laws to regulate speech, particularly focusing on misinformation and disinformation.


Government of Karnataka
**BENGALURU URBAN ZILLA PANCHAYAT**
O/o Executive Engineer, Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division,
First Floor, Zilla Panchayat Building, S. Kariyappa Road,
Banashankari (Near Banashankari Temple) Bengaluru-560070.
No.EE/RDW&SD/BNG(U)/TND/10/2025-26/ Date: 07.11.2025
**Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Tender Notice**
Tenders are invited through Karnataka Public procurement portal for the Works approved Under Various Head of grants for the year 2025-26 Under Two Cover System. The Tender Documents can be obtained and submitted on or before **24.11.2025 up to 4.00 pm**. For further details contact the above address during office hours or visit **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**
Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
RDW&S Division, Bengaluru Urban Dist, Bengaluru
DIPR/CP/Shirdi Sai/3654/2025-26

**City Municipal Council, SAGAR-577401**
Dist: Shivamogga , State: Karnataka
Web: www.sagaracity.mrc.gov.in Phone: 08183-226021
Email: ka.sagar.cmc@gmail.com
CMCS/AEE/Amruit-2.0:03:2025-26 Date:28.10.2025
**Re Tender Notice (Through e-Procurement)**
Tender is invited in item-wise two _cover system as per KW3 rules for the execution of the development work of Ganpati Lake Park under the Centrally Sponsored Amrit 2.0 Mission Scheme for Sagara Municipality. The contractors who have obtained a contract permit in the Public Works Department in the eligible category may submit their minimum price along with the prescribed EMD on the portal http://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in . More information and conditions can be obtained from the website http://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in.
**(1)** The last date for submission of dully filled tender : 12.11.2025 up to 5.30 PM. **(2)** Date of opening of technical bid :14.11.2025 at 5.30 pm **(3)** Date of opening of financial bid : 17.11.2025 at 5.30 pm (and if it is not possible due to unavoidable reasons, it will be opened during the next office hours.)
**Sl.No. 1. Indent No.:** DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK INDENT 49854 CALL 2 **Estimated amount :** Rs. 86.83 lakhs
**Conditions: 1.** Any amendments and changes related to the tender will be published in K.P.P.P. Protel. **2**. GST will be paid as per government rules. **3**. More details can be found on the website of the Municipality http://www.sagaracity.gov.in and in the Technical Department during office hours.
**Sd/- Maithri V. Patil, Chairman**
**Sd/- Savitavasu, Vice Chairman,**
**City Municipal Council, Sagara**
**Sd/- H. K. Nagappa, Municipal Commissioner,**
**City Municipal Council, Sagara**
DIPR/smg/ksmca/25-26/19/11/1195

**ಕೃಷಿ ಉತ್ಪನ್ನ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆ ಸಮಿತಿ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ**
ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 0836-2322251
Email apmchubli@gmail.com
ಸಂ: ಕೃಮಾಇ: ಕೃಉಮಾಸ(ಹು): ನಿ.ಠೇ:1716: 2025-26 ದಿನಾಂಕ:06/11/2025
**ಇ-ಹರಾಜು ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ**
ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ, ಕೃಷಿ ಉತ್ಪನ್ನ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆ ಸಮಿತಿಯ ರೂ.30-00 ಕೋಟಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚುವರಿ ಹಣವನ್ನು Callable ರೂಪದಲ್ಲಿ ನಿಶ್ಚಿತ ಠೇವಣಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ತೊಡಗಿಸುವ ಕುರಿತು **Public Sector Banks Including RRB / Private Sector Scheduled Commercial Banks** ಗಳಿಂದ ಸ್ಪರ್ಧಾತ್ಮಕ ಬಡ್ಡಿದರವನ್ನು **ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಿ,** ಇ-ಹರಾಜು ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯನ್ನು ದ್ವಿ-ಲಕೋಟಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಹರಾಜಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 18-11-2025** ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ: **4:00** ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ. ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 19-11-2025** ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ **05:00** ಗಂಟೆಗೆ. ಇ-ಹರಾಜಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಬಿಡ್ಡಿಂಗ್ ಮಾಡುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 24-11-2025** ಸಮಯ ಮುಂಜಾನೆ: **11.00** ರಿಂದ ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ: **04.00** ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ. ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ **APMC/2025-26/AUCTION104/** ಈ ಕಚೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.
ಸಹಿ/-
ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ
ಕೃಉಮಾಸ ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ
ಸಹಿ/-
ಆಡಳಿತಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು
ಕೃಉಮಾಸ ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ
ಡಿಐಪಿಆರ್/ಧಾರವಾಡ/838/ಮಣಿಪಾಲ್/2025-26

**ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ**
(ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ನಗರಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕೋಶ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು)
ಇ-ಮೇಲ್: ka.bengaluru.urban.dudc@gmail.com
ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 080-22211372/352
ಸಂ: ಜಿನಕೋ/ತಾ.ಶಾ/ನಗರೋತ್ಥಾನ ಹಂತ-04/01/2025-26 ದಿನಾಂಕ:07.11.2025
**ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ**
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ನಗರಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕೋಶ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿನ ಹುಣಸಮಾರನಹಳ್ಳಿ, ಅತ್ತಿಬೆಲೆ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಾಣವಾರ ಪುರಸಭೆ ಮತ್ತು ಕೋನಪ್ಪನ ಅಗ್ರಹಾರ ಪುರಸಭೆ ಅಮೃತ್ ನಗರೋತ್ಥಾನ ಹಂತ-4.0 ನಿಧಿ ಅನುದಾನದಡಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಲು ನೊಂದಾಯಿತ ಅರ್ಹ ದರ್ಜಿಯ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಮೊಹರಾದ ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

| ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ. | ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ | ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ. ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ) | ವರ್ಗ |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | DMA/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT49831/CALL-3 | 75.56 | ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ |
| 2 | DMA/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT49779/CALL-3 | 71.66 | ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ |
| 3 | DMA/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT49389 | 173.07 | ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ |
| 4 | DMA/2025-26/WS/WORK_INDENT51234 | 29.97 | ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ |
| 5 | DMA/2025-26/WS/WORK_INDENT51251 | 50.00 | ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ |

1) ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆ/ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ, ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ, ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕದ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. 2) ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.
ಸಹಿ/-
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು.
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಾಪ್ರ/ಸ್ಯಾನ್/3677/2025-26
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ನಗರಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕೋಶ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ


**BLAST FROM THE PAST**

# 'Emergency: How my life changed at Ashoka hotel'

BENGALURU, DHNS

November 7, 1975, is an important day in my life.

I was 19 when my life changed at Ashoka hotel (now The LaLiT Ashok). It was my first time at Ashoka, which was the only star hotel back then after West End.

A Commonwealth delegation was coming. Indira Gandhi had painted a picture all was well under Emergency. We wanted the delegation to see the true picture.

Five of us - Govardhan, D J Shivaram, Suresh Nayak and Somashekhar - met near Shivananda Stores. The plan was that two of us would shout slogans to divert attention and the remaining three board buses that had the delegates.

I got into one of the buses and started distributing pamphlets. I explained things in whatever English I knew.

It was the jurisdiction of the High Grounds police station. Inspector Veeraiah caught me. The lanky me was beaten in front of the foreign delegates. That's exactly what I wanted. I wanted everyone to know what was going on. I was taken to the High Grounds police station and put in a cell. Surrounded by 10-12 cops, I was kicked around badly. If I was a football, the cops were Messi and Ronaldo. I was taken to another room that had a pulley like the one used in wells. I knew what was coming.

They asked me to take off my shirt. When I refused to remove my pants, I was kicked.

With just underwear on, my hands were tied behind my back. My legs were also tied. The rope was attached to the pulley. I was hanging 3-4 feet above ground with my hands behind me.

In a few minutes, I felt a shooting pain. If that wasn't enough, they started beating me from behind. After 8-10 minutes, I fainted. They brought me down. When I regained consciousness, I was asked to hold the rope. When I lost balance and fell, the angered police hit me more.

It was Govardhan's turn next and I was asked to watch him screaming in pain. The five of us were kept in a 6x6 cell where we had to eat and relieve ourselves. It was stinking. One of us borrowed a beedi from the constables just to beat the stench.

Suresh Kumar

Four persons, caught for selling tickets to *Sholay* that had released in Kapali theatre, were also put in our tiny cell.

Worried that I hadn't come home for days, my mother went around looking for me. Someone took her to Rama Jois' house. Then, to Santosh Hegde's. On November 10, they filed a habeas corpus seeking that I be produced immediately. The Bengaluru police got worried that I'd tell the court about all the torture.

At 7 pm, on November 10, we were thrown into the 'D' barrack of the Central Jail.

I was released 15 months later, on January 22, 1977.

If I hadn't come to the Ashoka hotel on November 7, I don't know what my life would've been.

*(As narrated by BJP MLA S Suresh Kumar)*

## Samajamukhi literary fest to host critical dialogue on Kannada's future

**BENGALURU, DHNS:** The Samajamukhi Sahitya Sammelana, organised by Samajamukhi Prakashana, will be held on November 8 and 9 at the Scouts and Guides Premises, Palace Road, setting the stage for a critical examination of contemporary Kannada writing.

The two-day conference aims to reposition literary gatherings as platforms for intellectual rigour and dialogue, moving away from what organisers describe as "politicised spectacles or commercialised shows". Over 225 writers and thinkers are expected to take part.

The inaugural ceremony will feature noted writers Hampana, Prof Baraguru Ramachandrappa, and Prof HS Shivaprakash.

The sammelana will have a main plenary stage and four parallel forums covering creative writing, classical literature, cultural heritage, and interdisciplinary subjects.

A dedicated English-language forum will also be part of the event.

Key discussions will focus on the crisis facing the Kannada language, the role of literature in defending democracy, and the relevance of Babasaheb Ambedkar's and Gandhi's thoughts in Kannada literary discourse. Sessions on emerging genres like short stories, Dalit literature, and critical studies on authors such as Poornachandra Tejaswi are also planned.

In a show of collective support for independent thought, the sammelana is being voluntarily funded, with organisers aiming to meet its estimated cost of Rs 25 lakh without government assistance.

Writers, readers, and students can register for Rs 300 to participate in the event.

# Govt schools told to increase student enrolment by 5% next year

### Campaign launched to attract more students

BENGALURU, DHNS

The government schools, which have witnessed a 2.54 lakh dip in enrollment (class 1 to 10) during the current academic year, have set a target to increase it by at least 5% for the next academic year.

To improve admissions, the Department of School Education and Literacy has launched an admission campaign. It will continue till June 30, 2026. The department has taken such a measure to attract students who are attracted to private and other board schools for the first time.

"All government schools and PU colleges must increase the enrollment by 5% and as a measure to attract students who are attracted to private and other board schools, Karnataka Public Schools and PM Shri Adarsha Vidyalayas should aim at increasing the same by 10%," a circular, issued by the department, said.

"There are reports about admitted children discontinuing schooling in the middle of the academic year and migrating. To bring those children back to schools, there needs to be an awareness programme to trace children between the age group of 6 to 18," the department said in the circular.

The school authorities and the members of the School Development and Monitoring Committees (SDMCs) have been directed to create a pro-learning environment at the schools. DH FILE PHOTO

The school authorities and the members of the School Development and Monitoring Committees (SDMCs) have been directed to create a pro-learning environment at the schools.

"Schools must launch posters, charts, audio clips and documentaries to create awareness among the public about the government schools," the circular read.

The schools have been allowed to select an ambassador at the district level to create awareness about education and facilities provided at the government schools.

"Teachers and SDMC representatives must convince parents in rural areas and stop children from becoming agricultural labourers and encourage them to enrol in schools. In the urban areas, street children, rag pickers, child labourers, orphans, specially abled and migrant children must be identified," the department said in the circular.

A senior official of the department said, "We have so many schemes like free uniform, textbooks, shoes, midday meal, Ksheera Bhagya and eggs and also the bilingual classes. Many parents are still unaware of the facilities. The schemes of the government must be familiarised as they will help to attract students to government schools."

The official further stated that the department has also decided to provide transportation facilities at Karnataka Public Schools to address the transportation issue.

## Mobile app launched for early intervention in children with autism

**BENGALURU, DHNS:** Com DEALL, a Bengaluru-based not for profit focused on early intervention of autism and related disorders in children across the country, has launched a mobile application to make early intervention in children with autism and related disorders more accessible.

The application was launched on Friday, at an event celebrating the organisation's silver jubilee. The guest of honour was G Vijaya Raghavan, Founder of CADRRE. The app allows parents to access customised early intervention plans for their children, for a subscription fee. Through the subscription, one can access customised lesson plans in a phased manner, speak to experts and also carry out online assessment.

Speaking at the event, the chief guest, Uma Mahadevan, Additional Chief Secretary and Development Commissioner, said, "It is very meaningful to see the brilliant and expressive talents of all our children. This is what diversity is and this is what a very plural and diverse world actually means," after inauguration an art exhibition featuring works of children on the spectrum. Uma also offered to provide assistance to Com DEALL in carrying forward the organisation's programme.

A coffee table book and a documentary on the work of the organisation, and a revamped website were also inaugurated at the event.

"Twenty five years ago, when I started the Com DEALL programme, it was an impassive response to the desperation of about 20-odd couples, who came to me as they did not know where to go. Now looking back, it has been the most challenging, yet rewarding part of my career," Dr Prathibha Karanth, founder-director and managing trustee of Com DEALL.

# Bail cancellation: Supreme Court junks Pavithra Gowda's review plea

### She's key accused in Renukaswamy murder case

NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Supreme Court has dismissed a plea filed by Pavithra Gowda, an associate of Kannada film actor Darshan, seeking review of August 14, 2025 judgment, which set-aside bail granted to her and others in the Renukaswamy murder case.

A bench of Justices J B Pardiwala and R Mahadevan, in an order on November 6, 2025, found no ground to review the judgment.

"We have carefully gone through the said order and the record. In our opinion, no case for review is made out. Consequently, the review petitions are dismissed," the bench said. The review petition is examined by judges in chamber by circulation of papers and without the assistance from the counsel.

On August 14, 2025, the apex court had set aside the Karnataka High Court's December 13, 2024 order granting bail to

Kannada film actor Darshan and other accused. The other accused, whose bail was cancelled, were Nagaraju R, Anu Kumar alias Anu, Lakshman M, Pavithra Gowda, Jagadeesh alias Jagga, Pradoosh S Rao alias Pradoosh.

Darshan, a 47-year-old Kannada actor, was arrested on June 11, 2024 in connection with the murder of 33-year-old Renukaswamy, a native of Chitradurga. The victim's body was discovered near a stormwater drain in Bengaluru on June 9, 2024.

According to the police, Renukaswamy had allegedly sent obscene messages to Darshan's associate, Pavithra Gowda, which enraged the actor. Police investigation led to the arrest of actor Darshan, Pavithra Gowda and 15 other associates.

The Bengaluru police also filed a charge sheet on September 3, 2024 naming Pavithra as accused number 1 and Darshan as the accused number 2.

# Route march: Will consider requests as one-time measure, govt tells HC

BENGALURU, DHNS

The state government on Friday informed the Karnataka High Court that it would positively consider as a one-time measure, all the requests, including the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) to hold a route march, in Chittapur town of Kalaburagi district. Recording the submissions, Justice M G S Kamal adjourned the hearing to November 13, on the petition filed by Ashok Patil, a representative of RSS.

In the previous hearing, the court had directed the authorities to hold a fresh meeting to resolve the issue pertaining to the Patha Sanchalana (route march) organised by the RSS. The court had asked the Advocate General (AG) Shashikiran Shetty to hold the meeting in his office also to be attended by the counsel on record as well as the senior counsel representing the petitioner.

During the hearing on Friday, the advocate general told the court that the meeting convened in his chamber was fruitful.

According to the AG, 11 organisations have made requests seeking permission to hold route marches. "Grant us a week's time, we will grant permission to every applicant as a one-time measure. This may not be seen as a precedent," the AG said, adding that different dates will be assigned to the organisations.

Senior advocate Arun Shyam, appearing for the petitioner, submitted that they have tentatively selected two dates, November 13 and November 16, for the route march. The court adjourned the hearing to November 13 for further consideration.

## Camp jumbo strays into Gundlupet town, creates panic

GUNDLUPET (CHAMARAJANAGAR DIST), DHNS

Camp elephant Parthasarathi created panic running amok and straying into Gundlupet town after a bee attack on Friday evening.

Parthasarathi was brought from Rampura elephant camp, to be used for tiger combing operation at Kallahalli village, in Gundlupet taluk.

According to Forest department sources, after the combing operation Parthasarathi was taken to feed water, when a swarm of bees attacked it. Even though its mahout tried to control it, the jumbo ran amok and entered the town. The people ran helter-skelter seeing the jumbo in the town. Later, it entered the bus stand, came out and roamed in Ashwini Layout and JSS Nagar.

### Vehicular movement halted, people alerted

The Forest department personnel were following the jumbo and alerted the people and stopped vehicular movement, with the help of the police. Luckily, the jumbo did not attack anyone.

The Forest department staff led by Gundlupet ACF Suresh, RFO Shivakumar took all measures to calm down the jumbo. It is said that it had entered the forest area.

# Trial courts have no jurisdiction to annul or tamper with lookout circulars: HC

BENGALURU, DHNS

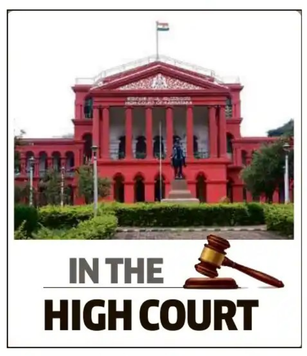
The Karnataka high court has said that the trial courts shall not entertain any challenge concerning lookout circulars (LOC) nor direct the police stations to remove LOCs.

"It is hereby declared and clarified with unmistakable emphasis that the learned Magistrates before whom criminal proceedings are pending, shall not entertain, under any guise or pretext, applications assailing or seeking the recall, suspension or modification of a LOC. Any indulgence by the trial courts in this regard, shall be deemed to be an act in excess of jurisdiction and will invite serious disapproval," Justice M Nagaprasanna said.

The court said this while disposing two petitions, filed by the husband and the wife in proceedings pending before the trial court. In the high court, the husband had sought recall of the LOC, while the wife challenged the recall of LOC against the husband, which enabled him to leave India.

The couple got married in May 2023 and the wife registered a dowry harassment and cruelty complaint against her husband and his family members in Basavanagudi Women police station when the husband was in Scotland.

Subsequently, she also filed a




case under Prevention of Women from Domestic Violence (DV) Act. When the husband, now a citizen of Scotland, failed to appear in the proceedings, an LOC was issued.

On February 18, 2024, the husband had to come back, owing to medical emergency in the family. He was detained at Mumbai airport and brought to Bengaluru.

### Recall of the LOC sought

The husband moved the high court seeking recall of the LOC issued against him. Simultaneously, he filed another petition before the magistrate for recall of the LOC, suppressing the pendency of this petition before the high court.

On March 18, 2024, the magistrate recalled the LOC and the very next day, the husband flew to Scotland.

Later, he withdrew the petition filed before the magistrate and moved a memo before the high court, seeking withdrawal of the pending petition. Besides other prayers, the wife sought directions on detailed guideline regarding the procedure on withdrawal of NOC.

Justice Nagaprasanna disposed of the petition filed by the husband noticing that the husband had already left India.

The court also disposed of the petition filed by the wife recording the assurance by the husband that he will attend the court proceedings promptly.

"The LOC, is an executive edict - administrative in its conception and effect, and therefore, beyond the ken of trial courts to annul or tamper with. The role of such concerned court is confined strictly to adjudicating the criminal lis before them in accordance with the established procedure.

The power to scrutinize, rescind, or uphold a LOC flows solely from the font of constitutional jurisdiction, vested in the writ courts, ie High courts and the Supreme Court. To countenance any encroachment upon this settled demarcation of authority would be to invite anarchy into the administration of justice, eroding both comity and coherence within the judicial framework. Therefore, the trial court has acted beyond its jurisdiction," Justice Nagaprasanna said.

## Fares announced for Bengaluru-Kochi Vande Bharat

BENGALURU, DHNS

The railways has announced fares for the KSR Bengaluru-Ernakulam Junction-KSR Bengaluru Vande Bharat Express, which will begin operations on November 11.

Train number 26651 will depart from KSR Bengaluru at 5.10 am and reach Ernakulam at 1.50 pm. The return service (26652) will start at 2.20 pm and arrive at KSR Bengaluru at 11 pm.

The stoppages include KR Puram, Salem, Erode, Tiruppur, Coimbatore, Palakkad and Thrissur. The train will cover the 638-km distance in eight hours and 40 minutes, about 80 minutes faster than the current quickest service on the route.

The train will not operate on Wednesdays, and its primary maintenance will be handled by the South Western Railway (SWR) at KSR Bengaluru.

The regular service will have eight coaches (four motor cars, one executive class coach, one trailer coach and two driving trailer coaches).

The chair car fare will be Rs 1,095 while an executive class seat will cost Rs 2,289, exclusive of reservation fees, supplementary and catering charges, and GST.

Fares for the Ernakulam Junction-KSR Bengaluru direction will be higher if passengers opt for onboard catering, as lunch or dinner will be served on this leg.

On Saturday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will flag off the inaugural special service via video conference. The inaugural service (train number 06652) will depart from Ernakulam Junction at 8 am and arrive at KSR Bengaluru at 5.50 pm.

## Talk of 'Kamraj Model' for K'taka

Kamraj Model, from Page 1

At present, the Cabinet comprises 32 members against the sanctioned strength of 34, including the CM.

While Siddaramaiah may also be keen to remove around 10 'non-performing' ministers and induct fresh faces, the deliberation is going in the party top brass whether to ask the CM to go for the BJP's Gujarat model, under which the saffron party recently made the entire 25-member Cabinet resign and inducted 19 new faces while retaining 6 old ministers.

Shivakumar, who is also state Congress president, has been complaining to the party top brass that the current set of ministers in the government is "loaded" with Siddaramaiah loyalists who came from the Janata Dal. He also has been strongly arguing that many senior ministers should be sent for party work.

Akin to the plan mooted by former Tamil Nadu chief minister K Kamraj in 1963, which led to the overhaul of the Nehru Cabinet and Congress-run state governments, Shivakumar also has been suggesting to the party top brass that senior ministers service should be utilised to strengthen the organisation to face the 2028 Assembly polls and 2029 Lok Sabha polls, sources said.

Ministers Krishna Byre Gowda and Dinesh Gundu Rao, who met Congress General Secretary K C Venugopal, said that they were ready to serve the party by quitting their posts if the party asked. In the event of the party high command allowing Siddaramaiah to continue for a full five-year term, the Vokkaliga leader may aggressively push for adopting the 'Kamaraj Model'.

If it is thrashed out as an acceptable "compromise", sources say the CM camp may suggest the party top brass create two more Deputy CM posts to accommodate the ST and minority or Scheduled Caste leader instead of only one DCM.

The CM may also ask the top brass to appoint a new state president by replacing Shivakumar as per the 'one person, one post' rule.

# SC advocates blockchain technology for property registration

### Says it minimises fraud and unauthorized alterations

NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Supreme Court on Friday favoured adopting Blockchain technology to deal with a dichotomy between registration and ownership under the property laws, and to transform land registration into a more secure, transparent and tamper-proof system.

The top court asked the Law Commission to examine the issue as it involved restructuring and reviewing existing laws, ie. the Transfer of Property Act, 1882, Registration Act, 1908, Stamp Act, 1899, Evidence Act, 1872, Information Technology Act, 2000, Data Protection Act, 2023.

A bench of Justices P S Narasimha and Joymalya Bagchi passed the direction in context of reformation of land registration processes and to eschew fraudulent or multiple registration. The court said, the Blockchain technology has garnered particular attention for its potential to transform land registration into a more secure, transparent and tamper-proof system. The bench said property purchase has not been easy; it is not difficult to find people grudgingly telling us that it is in fact traumatic.

"The present system of presumptive title through registration is also the primary contributor to high volume of land-related litigation in India. Property disputes account for an estimated 66% of all civil cases. More than a century has passed by, and we must dare to think and look for alternatives," the bench said.

The court suggested that adoption of Blockchain technology would ensure immutability, transparency and traceability, thereby minimizing fraud and unauthorized alterations. The bench said blockchain technology is said to offer an alternative paradigm by encoding land titles, ownership histories, encumbrances, and by recording transfers on a distributed Ledger in an immutable and time stamped form. Justice Narasimha, who authored the judgment on behalf of the bench, said each entry, once validated into the distributed ledger, becomes part of a cryptographically linked chain of information that cannot be retroactively altered without detection.

# Remove stray dogs from school, hosp premises: SC

Stray dog, from Page 1

"The primary objective is to safeguard the fundamental right to life and safety of citizens, particularly children, students, patients and sportspersons, while ensuring compliance with the principles embodied in the Animal Birth Control Rules, 2023, framed under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960," it said.

The bench said the picked stray dogs should be moved to a designated shelter after due sterilisation and vaccination in accordance with the ABC rules. "The stray dogs picked up should not be released to the same location (from which they were picked)," it ordered.

The court also ordered the authorities, including the NHAI, to identify stretches of highways and expressways where stray cattle or animals are frequently found, and take immediate steps for their removal and relocation to designated shelters.

The cattle and other stray animals so picked up should be kept in appropriate shelters or gaushalas/cattle pounds, in accordance with the provisions of the PCA Act, and the ABC (Dogs) Rules, 2023, the court ordered. With regard to stray dogs, the court directed the authorities to prevent the ingress of stray dogs into the premises of government and private educational institutions and hospitals, among others, to prevent dog bite incidents.

In the detailed 31-page order in a suo motu case, Justice Mehta, authoring the order on behalf of the bench, stressed that these directions have been issued in the interest of public safety, health and management of stray dogs.

It directed each state and UT to file comprehensive additional affidavits before the next date of hearing, specifically indicating the remedial measures undertaken to ensure full compliance with the court's directions and to rectify the lapses highlighted in the report of the amicus curiae, senior advocate Gaurav Agrawal.

It posted the matter for further hearing on January 13. The suo motu case was initiated on July 28 over a media report on stray dog bites leading to rabies, particularly among children, in the national capital.

# Indian strategists come together to dissect war risks, chart path for 'Indispensable' India

BENGALURU, DHNS

Former National Security Advisor and West Bengal Governor M K Narayanan speaks at the round table conference 'Global Futures 2035' organised by Synergia Foundation in Bengaluru on Friday. Former foreign secretaries Nirupama Rao and Kanwal Sibal are also seen. DH PHOTO/B K JANARDHAN

Indian strategic thinkers congregated in Bengaluru to dissect global risks and chart a course for the nation's future at Synergia Foundation's Round Table on 'Global Futures 2035', held in the city on Friday.

The event, held to launch the Foundation's 300-page report, featured an array of distinguished speakers, including former Foreign Secretary Kanwal Sibal, former National Security Adviser (NSA) and Governor of West Bengal M K Narayanan, former Foreign Secretary Nirupama Rao and senior defence officials to foreign dignitaries from Russia and Sri Lanka

In his keynote address, M K Narayanan argued that the third world war is no longer a "pipe dream" but a serious possibility, pointing towards the ongoing conflagrations in Ukraine and the Middle East, as well as the escalating tensions in the Indo-Pacific involving China and its rivals, backed by the US. Narayanan described the current geopolitical landscape as extremely precarious, noting that a single spark could ignite a major global conflict.

He also assessed the "puzzling" role of the United States, calling it "tantamount to a rogue superpower" that is increasingly inward looking and less interested in shaping the global order. He advised India to exercise "needful restraint" in the Indo-Pacific, warning that a conflict here could become the precursor to a third World War.

Nirupama Rao offered a nuanced vision for India's foreign policy, pivoting the concept of strategic autonomy from a strategy of "distance or avoidance" to one of sovereign choice and influence. She emphasised that today's world is more "fluid, unpredictable, and less accommodating" than the Cold War era.

Nirupama stressed that strategic autonomy must be backed by capability strengthening India in areas like technology, advanced manufacturing, and resilient supply chains to become "indispensable" globally. She outlined six pillars for India's future, including building domestic capability, adopting a smarter trade strategy, and maintaining diplomatic flexibility.

She highlighted that India's role as a stabiliser in the middle, capable of speaking to Washington and Beijing, is a powerful form of strategic influence.

The event featured an array of distinguished speakers like M Maheshwar Rao Chief Commissioner (GBA), Selvakumar Principal Secretary, Commerce and Industries Department and other senior officials.

# Technical issue at Delhi airport delays 800 flights

Delhi airport, from Page 1

In a tweet on Friday night, the AAI said the technical glitch has been rectified. "The AMSS systems are up and functional now. Due to some backlogs, there may be some delays in the normal functioning of automated operations, but the situation will be normal soon," the AAI, which provides air traffic control and navigation services, posted on X.

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Earlier, the AAI had said air traffic controllers at the Delhi airport were processing flight plans manually. "Controllers are processing flight plans manually, leading to some delays.

Technical teams are working to restore the system at the earliest. We appreciate the understanding and cooperation of all passengers and stakeholders," it said in an earlier post. Delhi International Airport Ltd, which runs the IGI Airport, posted on X at 1.42 pm: "All airline operations at Delhi airport are currently delayed. Concerned authorities are working on resolving the issue at the earliest."

Officials said around 800 flights had been delayed, as air traffic controllers were unable to get flight plans automatically since Thursday evening due to the technical problem, prompting the controllers to prepare the flight plans manually with available data. This, officials said, is a time-consuming process, leading to delay of flights.

There were long queues at boarding gates while a large number of people were forced to wait inside the airport terminals for flight updates. Flight tracking website Flightradar24.com indicated that the delay for departing flights was around 50 minutes at the airport. "Due to an ongoing technical issue with the AMSS, flights across all airlines at Delhi airport and some other airports in the northern region are currently experiencing delays," IndiGo posted on X.

Air India said a technical issue with the ATC in Delhi impacted flight operations across all airlines. SpiceJet said the disruption was impacting flights across Delhi and several northern regions while Akasa Air said the technical issue with ATC system at the Delhi airport may lead to longer wait times at the airport and delays for some of its flights. A spokesperson of the busy Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMIA) in Mumbai said airline operations at the airport might experience delays due to the issue with Delhi ATC. "Passengers are advised to connect with their respective airlines for updates on flight status and revised schedules. We regret the inconvenience caused and appreciate your patience and cooperation," the advisory issued by the CSMIA said.

*(With inputs from Mumbai)*

## ◆ WEATHER ◆

**Overview:** Rainfall occurred at many places over Coastal and North Interior Karnataka and dry weather prevailed over South Interior Karnataka

**Forecast Nov 08:** Rainfall to occur at some places over the state.

**INTERIOR NORTH**

| Stations | Max | Min | Rain |
|---|---|---|---|
| Belagavi | 29 | 17.8 | 00 |
| Bidar | 28.8 | 20.5 | 00 |
| Vijayapura | 28 | 18.4 | 00 |
| Dharwad | 30 | 20 | 1.2 |
| Haveri | 30.4 | 20.8 | 00 |
| Kalaburagi | 28.4 | 20.2 | 00 |
| Raichur | 27.4 | 20 | 8.4 |
| **COASTAL** | | | |
| Honnavar | 30.5 | 22.4 | 00 |
| Karwar | 31.9 | 22.1 | 00 |
| Shirali | NA | NA | NA |
| Mangaluru | 30.9 | 22.1 | 00 |

**INTERIOR SOUTH**

| Stations | Max | Min | Rain |
|---|---|---|---|
| Agumbe | 28.1 | 16.5 | 00 |
| Bengaluru | 28.4 | 20.7 | 00 |
| Ballari | NA | NA | NA |
| Chamarajanagar | NA | NA | NA |
| Chikkamagaluru | NA | NA | NA |
| Chitradurga | 30.1 | 19.6 | 00 |
| Davangere | 30 | 20 | 00 |
| Hassan | NA | NA | NA |
| Mysuru | 31.2 | 18.8 | 00 |
| Madikeri | NA | NA | NA |
| Kolar | 26.8 | 19 | 3.2 |

**OTHER STATIONS**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| New Delhi | 27.4 | 12.7 | 00 |
| Kolkata | 31.8 | 24 | 00 |
| Mumbai | 30.7 | 24.2 | 00 |
| Chennai | 32.1 | 24.6 | 03 |
| Pune | 30.7 | 17.3 | 00 |
| Hyderabad | 30.3 | 20.1 | 00 |
| Th'puram | 32.6 | 23.4 | 00 |

**KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED**
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No:CEE/Tr(O)Z/TKR/EE(Civil)/25-26/8613-16 Date:06-11-2025

**TENDER NOTIFICATION**
(Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only)

KPTCL invites Bid on electronic mode for the various Civil Engineering works in Tumakuru Transmission (Operations) Zone against bid enquiry numbers: **KPTCL/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT 2465, 2698, 2721, 2722, 2723, 2724, 2725 & 2726.**

The bids will be received through Electronic Mode Only. The details regarding participation in the E-tendering process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website **http://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyperlink "E Procurement KPTCL" or **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **11.11.2025 @ 12.30 hrs**. Any extension of Due date for Bid submission will be intimated in the KPP Portal. Any details required in this regard can also be had from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

All Corrigendum/Addendums shall be noticed by the bidders before the last date of submission of the Bids.

**Sd/- Chief Engineer, (Elec.,)**
**Transmission(Operations) Zone, KPTCL, Prasarana Bhavana, 1st Floor, Tumakuru 66/11kV S/s Premises, Tumakuru-572103**

Government of Karnataka
**Office of the Shiralakoppa Town Municipal Council, Shiralakoppa – 577428**
Hirekerur Road, Opposite Government Public School, Shiralakoppa, Shikaripura (Tq), Shivamogga District
web: www.shiralakoppa.mrc.gov.in
e-mail:ka.shirlakoppa.tmc@gmail.com
No.: STMC/PA/CR/10/2025-26 Date: 07.11.2025

**Re-tender Notice (Through Karnataka Government Public Procurement Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

As per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act, 1999-2000, re-tender is invited through the Government Procurement Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in for outsourcing the human resource (manpower) services required for the management of solid waste in the limits of Shiralakoppa Municipality under the provisions of the Act 2000. For more information and details, interested contractors/agencies may participate in the tender by visiting the website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

**Sl.No. 1. Work Name:** Annual Term Tender for supply of manpower for Solid Waste Management service to Town Municipal Council, Shiralakoppa, on Outsource Basis **Indent Number**: DMA/2025-26/SE6306/CALL-2 **Amount**: Rs 56.50 Lakh

***)** Last date for obtaining information about the tender: 20.11.2025 up to 5.00 PM ***)** Last date for submission of tender: 22.11.2025 up to 5.30 PM ***)** Date of opening of technical bids: 24.11.2025 at 11.00 AM ***)** Date of opening of financial bid: 27.11.2025 at 5.00 PM

**Sd/– Chief Municipal Officer, Town Municipal Council, Shiralakoppa.**
DIPR/smg/ksmca/25-26/26/11/1205

Government of Karnataka
**DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH EMPOWERMENT AND SPORTS**
State Youth Centre, Nrupathunga Road, Bengaluru – 560 001.
Tel: 080-22215601, 22211246, Fax:080-22215602
No: DYES/ES/AP/128/2024-25 Date: 04/11/2025

**TENDER NOTIFICATION (E- Procurement Portal)**

Subject : The Deputy Director (Admn), Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports, State Youth Centre, Nrupathunga Road, Bangalore-560 001, KARNATAKA INDIA invites Tender to take up the various Construction works at stadiums of Mysuru, Madikeri, Haveri and Hassan districts of Karnataka.

| Sl. No | Particulars | Tender Amount | EMD | Last Date and Time for Submission of Bid | Last Date and Time for Opening of technical bid |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Construction of Pavilion block, Sports Arena Building, RCC drain & Toilet block in taluka stadium at Heggadadevanakote (H D KOTE) of Mysuru district | Rs 418.12 Lakhs | 6,27,185.00 | 03-12-2025 time 16:00 Hrs | 04-12-2025 time 16.30 Hrs |
| 2 | Construction of Semi Indoor Basket Ball Court at Madikeri District Stadium, Madikeri, Kodagu District. | Rs 125.09 Lakhs | 2,00,000.00 | 19-11-2025 time 16:00 Hrs | 20-11-2025 time 16.30 Hrs |
| 3 | Installation of 400m synthetic athletic track at District stadium, Haveri | Rs 845.54 Lakhs | 12,68,318.00 | 03-12-2025 time 16:00 Hrs | 04-12-2025 16:31 Hrs |
| 4 | Construction Of Multipurpose Indoor Stadium At Arasikere, Hassan District, Karnataka | Rs 432.90 Lakhs | 6,49,363.00 | 03-12-2025 time 16:30 Hrs | 04-12-2025 time 16:31 Hrs |

The Tender shall be submitted through e-Procurement Portal **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in).** Vendors need to register in the e-Procurement Portal to submit their bids online. The tender document can be viewed free of cost from the e-Procurement Portal. Additional information may be obtained during office hours at the above mentioned Address.

**Sd/-**
**Deputy Director (Admn)**
**Department of Youth Empowerment and sports**
**Tender Inviting Authority**
DIPR/CP/3699/SSC/2025-26

**ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಘನತ್ಯಾಜ್ಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ ನಿಯಮಿತ**
ನೋಂದಣಿ ಕಚೇರಿ : 30/1, 1ನೇ & 2ನೇ ಮಹಡಿ, ಬಿಬಿಎಂಪಿ ಕಟ್ಟಡ, ತಿಮ್ಮಯ್ಯ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಮಿಲ್ಲರ್ಸ್ ಟ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ಬಂಡ್ ಪ್ರದೇಶ, ವಸಂತ ನಗರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು –560051.
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಬಿಎಸ್‌ಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂಎಮ್‌ಎಲ್/DGM-3/ಪಿಆರ್/234/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 07.11.2025

**ಆಸಕ್ತಿ ಅಭಿವ್ಯಕ್ತಿ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲು ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ**

ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ವಸತಿ ಮತ್ತು ನಗರ ಸಚಿವಾಲಯ ವತಿಯಿಂದ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತಿರುವ ಸ್ವಚ್ಛ ಭಾರತ ಅಭಿಯಾನ 2.0 ರಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಮರ್ಪಕ ಘನ ತ್ಯಾಜ್ಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಗ್ರೇಟರ್ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರದ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬರುವ 5 ನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ 03 ವರ್ಷಗಳ ಅವಧಿಗೆ ಪೂರ್ಣ ಸಮಯದ ಪಾತ್ರದ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ IEC ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲು Day-NULM ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿತ SHG ಸದಸ್ಯರಿಂದ **'ಆಸಕ್ತಿ ಅಭಿವ್ಯಕ್ತಿ'** ಯನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಿದ್ದು, Day-NULM ನಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಂದಾಯಿಸಿಕೊಂಡಿರುವ ಆಸಕ್ತ SHG ಸದಸ್ಯರು ತಮ್ಮ ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯ ಅಭಿವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಯನ್ನು **https://www.bbmp.gov.in** ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಲಭ್ಯವಿರುವ ನಿಗದಿತ ನಮೂನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 24.11.2025 ರ ಸಂಜೆ 5:00 ಗಂಟೆಯ** ಒಳಗಾಗಿ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಘನತ್ಯಾಜ್ಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ನಿಯಮಿತದ ಕಛೇರಿ ವಿಳಾಸ: # 30/1, 3rd Floor, BBMP Building, Thimmaiah Road, Millers Tank Bund Area, VasanthNagar, Bengaluru- 560051 ಇಲ್ಲಿಗೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವುದು. Terms of Reference (TOR), Template for submission of TOR, Endorsement Form, ಮತ್ತಿತರೆ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು **https://www.bbmp.gov.in** ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಆಸಕ್ತ SHG ಸದಸ್ಯರು **1)** ಗುರುತಿನ ಪುರಾವೆ, **2)** ವಿಳಾಸದ ಪುರಾವೆ, **3)** ಅರ್ಹತಾ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿಸಿಕೊಂಡಿರುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳು, **4)** ತೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ಅರ್ಹತೆ & **5)** Day-NULM ಹಿಂಬರಹ / ದೃಢೀಕರಣ ಪತ್ರದ ನಮೂನೆಯನ್ನು ಸಹ ಲಗತ್ತಿಸಬೇಕು. ಆಯ್ಕೆಯಾದ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳನ್ನು ಅವರ ಕೌಶಲ್ಯವನ್ನು ನಿರ್ಣಯಿಸಲು ವಿಷಯದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ತಿಳುವಳಿಕೆಗಾಗಿ ಸಂದರ್ಶನಕ್ಕೆ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು.

| ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ. | ವಿವರ | ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಅರ್ಹತೆ |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | ಸಮುದಾಯ ಸಂಚಾಲಕರು (Community Mobilizer)–265 ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ | (1) ಎಸ್.ಎಸ್.ಎಲ್.ಸಿ. / 10ನೇ ತರಗತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಉತ್ತೀರ್ಣರಾಗಿರಬೇಕು. ಕಡ್ಡಾಯವಾಗಿ ಕನ್ನಡ ಭಾಷಾ ಜ್ಞಾನದ ಜೊತೆಗೆ ಕೆಲಸ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುವವರಿಗೆ ಆದ್ಯತೆ.<br>(2) ಬೃಹತ್ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ Day-NULM ಶಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿತ ಸ್ವ–ಸಹಾಯ ಗುಂಪಿನ ಸದಸ್ಯರಾಗಿರಬೇಕು (SHG)<br>(3) ಅರ್ಜಿದಾರರು MS Office ಮತ್ತು MS Excel ಕಂಪ್ಯೂಟರ್ ಸಾಕ್ಷರತೆಯನ್ನು ಕನ್ನಡ ಅಥವಾ ಆಂಗ್ಲ ಭಾಷೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹೊಂದಿರಬೇಕು.<br>(4) ಐ.ಇ.ಸಿ. ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಅನುಭವವಿರುವ ಅರ್ಜಿದಾರರಿಗೆ ಅಥವಾ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದಲ್ಲಿನ ನಗರ ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಅಥವಾ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್‌ಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ ಸಂವಹನ ಕಾರ್ಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ತೊಡಗಿಸಿಕೊಂಡ ಅನುಭವ ಇರುವವರಿಗೆ ಆದ್ಯತೆ ನೀಡಲಾಗುವುದು.<br>(5) ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ವಾರ್ಡ್ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ವಾಸವಿರುವ ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಆದ್ಯತೆ ನೀಡಲಾಗುವುದು. |

ಸಹಿ/–
ಉಪ ಪ್ರಧಾನ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕರು–3, ಬಿಎಸ್‌ಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂಎಂಎಲ್
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಾ.ಪ್ರ/3663/ಎಸ್‌ಎಸ್‌ಸಿ/2025–26

**KARNATAKA NEERAVRI NIGAM LIMITED**
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
Office of The Executive Engineer, KNNL, TLBC Division No. 3, Sindhanur-584128
No: KNNL/EE-3/TS/MPS /2701/Notification/2025-26/ 1464 Date:07.11.2025.

**Short Term Tender Notification (Through e-procurement only)**

The Lumpsum tenders through E-Procurement platform in Two Cover system (i.e., Technical Bid and Financial Bid.) are invited by the Executive Engineer, KNNL, TLBC Division No.3, Sindhanur on Behalf of the Managing Director, Karnataka Neeravari Nigam Limited, 4th Floor, Coffee Board Building, Dr|| B.R. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bangalore-560001 from Eligible Contractor enrolled in the labour Department for 5 works of Supply of Man Power for water management & Camp maintenance, the Amount put to tender is Minimum Rs. 37.87 Lakh and Maximum Rs. 165.83 Lakh. Last date for submission of tender through electronic tender is Date: 19.11.2025 up to 4.00 PM. The Name of work, amount put to tender, EMD amount, tender conditions and other information can be obtained from this office during office hours or through website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home.

**Sd/- Executive Engineer,**
**KNNL, TLBC Division No.3, Sindhanur.**
DIP/RCR/521/KSMCA/523/2025-26

**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, BIDAR**
**DISTRICT, BIDAR.**
**Office at Mangalpet, Bidar.**
No: STORES/1/TENDER/DPO/BDR/2025-26 Date: 05.11.2025

**TENDER NOTIFICATION**

Sealed tenders are invited through the e-Procurement portal from eligible contractors/agencies for the supply and installation of various items required by Bidar District Police under the Annual Store Procurement for the year 2025-26.

| Sl No | Particulars | Quantity In Nos. |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Providing and Fixing of Digitally Printed Single Sided Informatory Sign Board size 900x1200MM | 74 |
| 2 | Providing and Fixing of Digitally Printed Single Sided Informatory Sign Board Size 1800 x 1200MM | 2 |
| 3 | Cat Eye | 1583 |
| 4 | Solar Road Studs | 200 |
| 5 | Supply & Fixing of variable message Sign 2m x 1m (1920mm x 960mm cabinets ) | 3 |

**Estimated Cost is: 96,73,000/-**

**Tender Details::-** 1.Tender Publishing Date: **03.11.2025,** 2.Tender Closing Date : **20.11.2025 up to 4:00 PM,** 3. Technical Bid Opening : **24.11.2025 at 11:00 AM** Tender documents and further details can be obtained and submitted only through the KPPP e-Procurement Portal within the stipulated dates. For further information, contact: Office of the Superintendent of Police, Stores Division, Mangalpet, Bidar.

**Sd/- Chairman,**
**Tender Inviting and Accepting Authority,**
**and SP, Bidar.**
DIPR/Bidar/230/KSMC&A/2025-26

## COUNTER

"Let's take a look at the ground reality of these promises by the Prime Minister. According to the Bihar Economic Survey 2024-25: In 2013-14, the number of operational large factories in Bihar was 3,132, which dropped to 2,782 in 2022-23. In other words, at least 350 large industries closed down over the past 9 years. Bihar's share in the country's total operational industrial units is just 1.34%.

**Jairam Ramesh**
Congress general secretary

V/S

They fueled caste violence under the dim light of lanterns, sold kerosene to spread darkness, and looted homes. Congress and RJD have committed the 'sin' of tarnishing Bihar's glorious tradition, and have divided and looted the state."

**Yogi Adityanath**
Uttar Pradesh CM

## RALLY-METER*

| | |
|---|---|
| 13 | Narendra Modi |
| 29 | Amit Shah |
| 8 | JP Nadda |
| 13 | Rajnath Singh |
| 13 | Rahul Gandhi |
| 10 | Priyanka Gandhi Vadra |
| 3 | Mallikarjun Kharge |

* Rallies/roadshows held by top leaders after Oct 23, the last date for withdrawal of nominations for 2nd phase, till Nov 7; at least 3 by BJP leaders were addressed digitally owing to rains

## Poll diary

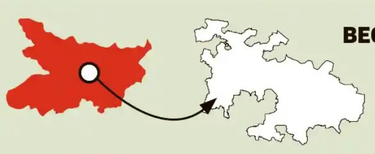
### No re-poll for phase 1 of Bihar election: Poll body

The Election Commission on Friday said that no re-poll was ordered after the first phase of the Bihar Assembly election, which saw 64.69% of 3.75 crore voters exercising their franchise. After scrutiny, an EC statement said, "no discrepancy or malpractice was found" at any of the polling stations and "no re-poll was recommended" in phase I of the elections, during which 121 Assembly seats in 18 districts went to polls. The entire process was videographed, and after scrutiny, Forms 17A and related materials were re-sealed with the Returning Officer's seal.

### Tej Pratap meets BJP's Ravi Kishan, sparks speculation

Janshakti Janata Dal founder Tej Pratap Yadav and BJP MP Ravi Kishan were seen together at the Patna airport on Friday, raising eyebrows amid the assembly elections. As they exited the airport chatting, journalists surrounded them, speculating whether the appearance of the former RJD leader, once a staunch critic of the BJP-RSS, alongside Kishan signalled a new political equation. The two had landed at the airport after a day of hectic campaigning. While Yadav, who was expelled from RJD by his father Lalu Prasad, was canvassing in Gaya for his party's candidates, Kishan addressed rallies in East Champaran and West Champaran districts. To a pointed query as to whether he could side with the BJP, the Hasanpur MLA, did not give a direct reply, but said, "I will be with anyone who removes unemployment."

## CONSTITUENCY WATCH



**KUNDAN KUMAR**
BJP
2020: Won

**AMITA BHUSHAN**
CONG
2020: Runner-up

# Why Bihar voters came out like never before

Record turnout in the first phase sparks competing claims from NDA and Mahagathbandhan

**ABHAY KUMAR**
PATNA

Soon after the first phase of elections concluded in Bihar, covering 121 of the 243 constituencies, the Election Commission announced a record turnout of 64.69%.

The EC had reason to celebrate. This was the highest participation since the first polls of 1951-52. Thursday's figure even surpassed the 62.57% turnout recorded during the 2000 Assembly elections in undivided Bihar, when the state had 324 seats.

But while the EC's morale is buoyed by the record turnout, political parties across the spectrum are left uneasy, wondering what the surge in voter participation might signify.

The ruling party insists that the record turnout signals strong support from women voters — just as in 2015 and 2020 — in favour of the NDA in general and Nitish Kumar in particular. The Opposition, however, claims the surge reflects a groundswell against Nitish, with voters demanding a change in the regime.

"In 2015, 60.48% of women voted compared to 53.32% of men. In 2020 too, 56.69% of women turned out against 54.45% of men. On both occasions, when women outnumbered men, Nitish became chief minister. This time, his welfare measures for women, including the recent Rs 10,000 cash transfer, have once again drawn women in droves to vote for the NDA," said a senior ruling party leader.

Security personnel stand guard as people queue up to cast their votes at a polling station in Vaishali on Thursday. PTI

However, Mahagathbandhan's chief ministerial candidate Tejashwi Yadav offers a different reading.

"Our Mai-Behan Yojna for women promises Rs 30,000 annually (Rs 2,500 per month) beginning January 14, on the auspicious day of Makar Sankranti. This has encouraged women to vote for the Mahagathbandhan. Besides, the youth, many casting their ballots for the first time, seem to be rooting for a new government that will provide jobs and curb migration. The record turnout reflects a vote for change," he said.

### BEYOND NUMBERS

- 64.69% voting in first phase, highest since 1951-52
- Experts cite cleansed rolls, festival timing and pleasant weather
- NDA claims women voters drove turnout; Oppn calls it a vote for change
- In 2015 & 2020, women outnumbered men at polls; Nitish became CM both times

### Expert view

Political experts believe the record turnout is due to three key factors.

"The primary reason is the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) conducted in Bihar, which reduced the voter numbers from 7.9 crore to 7.4 crore. Once bogus voters were weeded out, the polling percentage naturally rose," explained Giridhar Jha, editor of a national magazine.

He offered a simple calculation. "Earlier, if 60 out of 100 voters cast their ballot, the turnout was 60%. After SIR, if 10 bogus names were removed, then 60 votes out of 90 valid voters would translate into a turnout of 66.66%," he said.

The second major factor is timing. The polls were held soon after the Chhath festival, when migrants traditionally return to Bihar. "This time, many of them stayed back to cast their vote," noted Jha, adding that whether these voters supported the ruling camp, the Opposition alliance or Prashant Kishor's Jan Suraaj will only be clear once the results are declared.

The third factor is the pleasant November weather. "Lok Sabha elections are usually conducted in the sultry summer months of April and May, while Assembly polls fall in November. Weather makes a huge difference to voter turnout," said a political scientist.

# Record turnout shows trust in Modi-Nitish: PM

Says Cong is busy finding excuses for loss; lauds EC for conducting orderly polls across 121 constituencies

PM Modi addresses a public rally in Bhabua, Bihar. PTI

AURANGABAD/BHABHUA (BIHAR), PTI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday asserted that the record turnout in the first phase of the Bihar assembly polls was proof that people have reposed their trust in the 'track record of Narendra and Nitish'.

While the NDA will register its largest victory in this election, the Congress is now busy finding excuses for the impending defeat, he claimed.

Addressing rallies in Aurangabad and Kaimur districts, Modi predicted victory of the NDA, led in Bihar by Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, and also lauded the Election Commission for successfully conducting elections across 121 constituencies where voting was held.

He cited the examples of the Ram temple in Ayodhya, abrogation of Article 370 and Operation Sindoor to assert "I do what I promise".

"Yesterday, the voters of Bihar broke all records. Never before in the state's history has there been such a high poll percentage. Much of the credit goes to mothers and sisters, the Maatri Shakti (mother power), who turned up in large numbers to raise the turnout to nearly 65%. It is evident that they all have trust in the track record of Narendra-Nitish," he said.

The people have voted to ensure that an NDA government, which would guarantee good governance, remains in place in Bihar, the PM said.

Without mentioning I.N.D.I.A bloc CM candidate, Tejashwi Yadav, the PM said, "The crown prince of jungle raj gets tongue tied whenever he is asked what his plans are for fulfilling the bogus promises he has been making".

### Oppn retorts

Meanwhile, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, who addressed rallies in Banka and Bhagalpur districts, took a veiled dig at BJP Rajya Sabha MP Rakesh Sinha, who had voted in the Delhi Assembly polls held earlier this year and was seen exercising his franchise in his native district of Begusarai on Thursday.

The pictures of Sinha at a polling booth have gone viral on social media. The academic-turned-politician has, however, clarified that after the assembly polls in the national capital, he applied for deletion of his name from the Delhi rolls as he wanted to be enrolled as a voter in Bihar.

Jan Suraaj Party founder Prashant Kishor, however, maintained that the "highest turnout since Independence" suggested that people were yearning for a change, and his one-year-old party was on the cusp of scripting history.

# NDA govt failed to deliver on its promises, I.N.D.I.A bloc will: Kharge

SASARAM, PTI

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Friday accused the BJP of failing to fulfill its promises in Bihar, asserting that if voted to power, the I.N.D.I.A bloc government will implement whatever it has promised in its manifesto.

Addressing a public rally in the Chenari Assembly segment, Kharge alleged, "Modi ji does not hesitate to lie; his friend Amit Shah is also like him."

"Modi ji said a katta (countrymade handgun) was put on Congress' temple by the RJD to steal the CM candidature from the Congress. Actually, it is the BJP that is the real thief," he added.

He also accused the BJP of misleading the people, claiming that the party has failed to deliver on commitments such as providing Rs 2 crore annually to farmers and one crore houses for the poor.

"Modi ji said he will give Rs 2 crore each year to farmers. Did he? No. He said he will give 1 crore houses to the poor. Did he? No," the Congress leader claimed.

### 'Nehru gave HMT, BHEL'

Kharge also criticised the NDA leadership for targeting former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, saying, "Nehru ji gave the country HMT, BHEL, and many other factories and industries. But the BJP has only erected an army of RSS to run the country on the basis of Manusmriti."

Kharge claimed that the Congress is "committed to safeguarding democracy, justice and fraternity" and that it works for "farmers, Dalits, women and backward classes" instead of focussing on "securing the chair."

Mallikarjun Kharge

"Nitish ji gave women a debt of Rs 10,000 and asked for votes in return. What is he actually concerned with—votes or uplift of women?" the Congress chief asked.

He alleged that there has been no development in Bihar in 20 years of Nitish Kumar's rule.

Kharge said the I.N.D.IA bloc has decided to make Tejashwi Yadav the chief minister to curb unemployment, stop outmigration, and ensure rural development.

He pledged that an I.N.D.I.A bloc government would provide a job in every household, regularise Jeevika workers, give Rs 2,500 monthly to women, and provide 200 units of free electricity.

## CROWD PULSE

Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha and Congress leader Rahul Gandhi with supporters during a public rally for the Bihar Assembly polls in Banka district. PTI

# Modi became PM through 'chunav chori': Rahul

**NEW DELHI, DHNS:** Stepping up his attack on the 'vote chori' issue, Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Friday alleged that the ruling BJP indulges in "chunav chori" (stealing elections) and Narendra Modi became Prime Minister through "chunav chori" (stealing elections).

He told reporters before leaving for campaigning in Bihar that the Congress will continue its expose on 'vote chori' and they have a lot of material. The process is on and they will "clearly show India's GenZ and youth that Narendra Modi became the prime minister through 'chunav chori' and BJP indulges in 'chunav chori'," he said.

Rahul said he gave a presentation that the Haryana elections were "not elections at all" and a "wholesale chori" occurred there.

"There was no response by the EC to the allegations levelled by me on fake votes and fake photographs. BJP is defending the EC but is not negating what I said. The media is picking up small examples, like a Brazilian woman voted. How was voting done on the photo of a Brazilian national?" he said.

"The reality is that Narendra Modi-ji, Amit Shah-ji and the Election Commission together are attacking the Constitution. The Constitution says 'One man, one vote'. Haryana shows that there was no 'One man, One Vote' but it was 'One man, Multiple votes'.

He alleged that they were going to do the same in Bihar, as it happened in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Haryana. "It keeps happening in Gujarat," he added.

On Wednesday, Rahul alleged 'sarkar chori' (stealing government) in Haryana.

RAJASTHAN BYPOLL

# BJP looks to retain Anta as Cong retries its luck

**SHEMIN JOY**
NEW DELHI, DHNS

A former Congress leader has spiced up the bypoll to Rajasthan's Anta Assembly seat, which the ruling BJP is seeking to retain after it fell vacant when its MLA was disqualified. Meanwhile, the Congress candidate, a former minister who lost the 2023 Assembly polls, is trying his luck again.

It has also brought together warring factions like those led by Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma and his predecessor Vasundhara Raje, who was relegated to the sidelines of the BJP leadership.

Meanwhile, Ashok Gehlot, Govind Dotasra, and Sachin Pilot hit the campaign trail for the Congress.

The BJP is confident of romping home, citing its improved performance in the bypolls in November last year after a blip in the Lok Sabha election.

The bypoll brought together warring factions like those led by CM Bhajanlal Sharma and Vasundhara Raje.

The party won five out of the seven seats in last year's bypolls, increasing its tally from one, while the Congress lost three seats and won just one.

The BJP has fielded Morpal Suman, a panchayat pradhan from the Mali community, against the Congress' Pradeep Jain.

Independent candidate Naresh Meena, who was expelled from the Congress, could upset the calculations.

The bypolls were necessitated due to BJP MLA Kanwarlal Meena's conviction in a 20-year-old criminal case. He defeated Jain in 2023 by 5,861 votes, despite the Congress candidate winning by 33,737 votes in 2018.

### Government's work

On the campaign trail, the BJP is highlighting its government's work in the last two years, while the Congress is questioning it.

Both parties are working overtime at the grassroots. The Congress has given around 270 senior leaders tasks at various levels, including at the booth level. Leaders have also been tasked with handling various caste groups.

Electors from the Mali and Meena communities, with around 35,000 votes each, dominate the constituency. They are followed by the Dhakar community, which has around 18,000 votes.

### 'Chhota Kirodi'

Naresh, who had impressive electoral performances when he fought the Chhabra and Deoli Uniara seats, is likely to take a chunk of the Meena votes. He is often called "Chhota Kirodi", as his style resembles that of senior BJP leader Kirodi Lal Meena, known for his rebellious nature and agitations.

While Naresh has a following, his opponents feel that his antics have an expiry date, and would not work this time.

Meanwhile, Congress leaders believe Jain is an influential leader in the constituency and could reverse his 2023 misfortunes this time, even as the BJP believes bringing back a candidate who was "rejected by people two years ago" will not help the cause.

# Communal appeals trigger EC complaint in Jubilee Hills contest

**S N V SUDHIR**
HYDERABAD, DHNS

The Jubilee Hills bypoll campaign has taken a communal turn, with both major parties making overtly religious appeals to voters.

Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy declared, "Congress means Muslims, and Muslims mean Congress," prompting Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar to urge Hindus to unite behind the BJP candidate.

The ruling Congress has since petitioned the Election Commission, seeking action against Sanjay for his remarks.

Addressing a meeting in Shaikpet division on Wednesday, Revanth Reddy reiterated Congress' commitment to Muslim welfare and accused the BRS of deceiving the community.

"I have been a secular leader since I entered politics. Congress governments have consistently provided opportunities to minorities. Congress means Muslims, and Muslims mean Congress. I won the Kodangal Assembly seat three times with minority support," CM Reddy said.

With nearly 1.2 lakh Muslim voters forming a major share of the constituency's nearly four lakh electorate, the AIMIM's decision to back the Congress rather than field its own candidate is being viewed as a potential game-changer in the November 11 bypoll.

At a rally in Borabanda on Thursday, Minister Bandi Sanjay mocked the Congress' outreach to minorities. "When I see people putting on caps to chase votes, it makes me laugh," he said. Appealing to Hindu consolidation, Sanjay said, "Back the BJP—the party of Ram's legacy."

Arguing that appeals for votes on religious grounds violate the Model Code of Conduct, the Congress urged the Chief Election Commissioner to take action against Sanjay.

It demanded that Sanjay be removed from the Union ministry, accusing him of provoking voters and seeking support on a communal basis.

On Friday, CM Revanth Reddy again appealed to voters to back Congress, citing the "game-changing development" under Congress governments from 2004 to 2014.

DECCAN HERALD
ESTABLISHED 1948

# A launchpad for bigger lift-offs

The successful launch of GSAT-7R (CMS-03) – the heaviest-ever communication satellite from India – on Sunday marks the country's confident entry into a new territory of space exploration. It is a strong demonstration by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) of its prowess to undertake complex future missions, including Gaganyaan, the space agency's ambitious human spaceflight programme,and the Bharatiya Antariksh Station, India's proposed space-based facility. The 4,410-kg satellite was indigenously designed and developed, and put into space by the country's most powerful launch vehicle, the LVM-3, on its fifth operational flight. The launcher was last used in the 2023 Chandrayaan-3 mission, which saw India become the first country to land near the south pole of the moon. ISRO modified the vehicle to enhance its payload capability by 10%; the vehicle's cryogenic upper stage was also upgraded for the mission. It is the first time ISRO has put a communication satellite weighing over 4,000 kg into Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO) from Indian soil. ISRO noted after the launch that India's space sector is "soaring high" and bringing valuable services to the user community.

**GSAT-7R will enhance India's strategic communication; launch demonstrates competence for complex missions**

The multi-band communication satellite comes with immense strategic value – it is designed to provide services over the Indian Ocean Region (IOR). GSAT-7R promises to equip the Indian Navy with stronger space-based communications and maritime domain awareness. With state-of-the-art indigenous components, the satellite is expected to provide seamless connectivity between the Navy's ships, submarines, aircraft, and Maritime Operations Centres. The significance of such communication is self-evident at a time when the IOR is becoming increasingly critical to India's national security landscape. The Navy said the satellite was a testament to the nation's pursuit of self-reliance.

The launch was also used for the in-orbit test of the indigenously developed C25 cryogenic stage. ISRO has achieved first-time success in the operation and gained useful data on engine performance, stability, and control in microgravity conditions. It has now demonstrated expertise in cryogenic propulsion, which will enable it to undertake advanced orbital missions. The success will enhance the precision and efficiency of its missions and boost future capabilities to place multiple satellites into orbit. The space agency has planned a series of launches in the next six months; it is preparing for the first unmanned mission under the Gaganyaan programme and to put a robotic astronaut in space. The country's vision for space exploration is promising. In the GSAT-7R launch, it has set the tone for what could be a packed calendar.

# Metro delays warrant push for self-reliance

Bengaluru Metro's Pink Line, like the recently delayed Yellow Line, appears headed for a slow start. The 7.5-km elevated section between Kalena Agrahara and Tavarekere is ready, but trial runs have been stalled for want of trains. Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML), the Bengaluru-headquartered public sector manufacturer, was to deliver a prototype by June 2025. That deadline has now slipped, with prototype testing alone expected to take another six months. At the core of this crisis lies a chronic shortage of rolling stock. The problem began in 2019, when the contract for the Yellow Line was awarded to the Chinese company CRRC. A 'Make in India' clause required the firm to establish a local manufacturing facility, but this proved difficult amid rising geopolitical tensions and restrictions on Chinese entities. After prolonged delays, CRRC partnered with Titagarh Rail Systems, a domestic manufacturer based in Kolkata, to assemble coaches in India. The partnership eventually revived production, but the years lost proved costly for Namma Metro.

**Rolling stock supply chains are strained. Can Karnataka fix the gaps with its own manufacturing hub?**

Now, even BEML – awarded a Rs 3,177-crore contract for 53 driverless trainsets for the Blue and Pink lines – has run into trouble. Delays in the import of major components such as gearboxes, motor wheel sets, and current collection devices have slowed manufacturing schedules. The absence of domestic testing facilities for crucial safety procedures, including bogey fatigue and car body squeeze tests, has compounded the lag. The result is a widening mismatch between civil completion and rolling stock readiness. The ripple effects extend beyond Bengaluru. Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, and Pune Metros also face low train frequencies due to similar procurement bottlenecks. The country's rapid metro expansion is thus colliding with the limited capacity of its rolling stock supply chain.

However, this challenge presents an opening for Karnataka. The state, which has long depended on the IT and services sector, is already home to BEML, the country's largest domestic supplier of metro coaches. Karnataka can leverage this base to attract private players into the manufacturing of ancillary components – bogies, brake systems, door mechanisms, and traction equipment – that are currently dependent on imports. The state government should act decisively by offering targeted incentives, facilitating industrial clusters around BEML's KGF unit, and investing in vocational training for specialised skills training for the rail sector. As metro systems expand into tier-2 cities, India's demand for rolling stock and sub-systems will soar. Karnataka, with its engineering prowess and manufacturing potential, can seize this moment to become the nation's hub for metro systems, transforming delay into opportunity.

POWER INHERITED

# Cycle of privilege: Why India votes for dynasty

Dynastic politics is condemned and shamed in India, but still thrives on the winnability factor

JOHN J KENNEDY

Dynasty in Indian politics is a phenomenon we have quietly learned to live with. Of course, we all agree that it shouldn't exist, and we also publicly affirm that leadership should be based on ability, not ancestry. However, during every election season, we see the same old surnames bloom on posters, and we continue to elect them. Shashi Tharoor, Congress MP, recently wrote in his Project Syndicate essay that political pedigree still trumps merit, and when surnames stand in for substance, the quality of governance inevitably suffers. True. But the bigger question is this. If dynasty is such an obvious flaw, why does it not just survive but thrive?

No doubt, Tharoor is right in his assertion that dynastic politics is a grave threat to Indian democracy. He goes on to add that it's not a Congress-only problem. Across India's political landscape, political succession has often resembled the reading of a family will rather than a democratic process. Consider these examples, which are all too familiar to us. In Maharashtra, the Thackerays have passed the baton from Bal to Uddhav to Aditya. In Tamil Nadu, the Karunanidhi clan continues through Stalin and Udhayanidhi. In Bihar, the Paswans have inherited the Lok Janshakti Party; in Punjab, the Badals dominate the Akali Dal; in Telangana, the KCR family runs the show. From the DMK and BRS to the SP and Shiv Sena, politics increasingly resembles a family tree more than a contest of ideas. It is also common knowledge that Tharoor's own party, the Congress, practically wrote the manual on political inheritance. Sure enough, his appeal now to "trade dynasty for meritocracy" has bruised the party's high command and, worse, handed the BJP an easy talking point. The ruling party quickly turned his words into a jab at Rahul Gandhi, insisting that every other party but theirs is a family firm.

However, the numbers tell a different story. According to an analysis by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR), one in five Indian lawmakers is a dynast, and nearly 17% of them belong to the BJP. So, if Congress is the face of dynasty with 32%, the BJP is its quiet custodian. Curiously, though, Tharoor's essay spares the BJP the scrutiny he applies to others. Perhaps that's because the BJP's dynasty runs on a different fuel. It does not always rely on bloodlines as much as on ideological inheritance and inner-circle loyalty. There may be no sons and daughters at the topmost position, but power still flows through tightly guarded networks of patronage. Nepotism wears saffron too, just that it is better disguised.

So, what does the persistence of dynasties reveal about voters and

politicians? The most certain thing is that Indian voters have grown accustomed to political inheritance. In many states, politics follows the same caste and kinship patterns. Voters treat family names like trusted brands. In a vibrant democracy, with newer parties entering the fray regularly and with the ever-shifting promises, a familiar surname feels like a safe bet. Voters who accept the father often accept the son as well. Consequently, familiarity outweighs competence, and parties oblige because a specific surname saves them the effort of building credibility from scratch. It's a silent pact between ambition and habit. Leaders and voters agree to keep that cycle intact.

### The surname sells

Interestingly, there's also a gender twist that complicates things. Nearly half of India's women legislators, ADR reports, come from political families. Daughters, wives, and widows are often held up as symbols of women's empowerment. But what kind of empowerment depends on a surname? While dynasty often serves as a gateway for women to enter politics, it also reinforces old hierarchies that block genuine equality. In fact, it clearly reflects India's democratic paradox: an advancement for women but built on inherited privilege.

At the same time, it must be remembered that not every dynast is undeserving. Some have indeed evolved into competent, even visionary leaders. To dismiss them solely because of birth would be unfair. However, we must not forget that democracy is about fairness and not just competence. It's about making sure anyone, regardless of origin, has a genuine chance to rise on merit. When that space is dominated by family-backed politicians, democracy loses its character as a public institution and becomes a gated community of privilege.

So why does the system persist? Because it works, at least for those who benefit from it. Parties want candidates who can win, not those who merely deserve to. Dynasts bring money, networks, and name recognition. Add caste and community loyalties, and the formula is unbeatable. Perhaps, until campaign financing is cleaned up, internal elections are truly representative, and voters demand more than just surnames, dynasty will remain the default setting. Reforms such as term limits and internal democracy could help, but what India really needs is a cultural shift in how it perceives leadership itself. It would be wishful thinking to believe that dynasty will disappear anytime soon. It's too deeply rooted in our political culture, feeding on the needs of parties, the loyalties of communities, and the insecurities of voters. What may change is its form, not its presence.

Dynasty has been shamed often, but never dismantled. It endures because it benefits everyone in some way, and even those who denounce it often fall in line when opportunity knocks. Tharoor's call for merit in politics is timely and necessary. Even so, India's democracy continues to suffer this contradiction, perhaps not for lack of imagination, but out of fear of the chaos the alternative may bring. So, for now, bloodlines will shape ballot lines, and we will continue to choose familiarity over freedom.

*(The writer is an educator and political analyst based in Bengaluru)*

RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE

# When the flute played again

A concert brought back memories of early lessons and lost tunes

HARINI RAGHAVAN

Recently, I happened to meet a flautist after more than four decades at a Karnatic music concert organised by our association. When the concert ended, he came to greet us—the organisers. There was something familiar about him. Then it struck me—he had played the flute recital at my wedding reception! My husband and I reminded him of the long-ago occasion, and we chatted about concerts, classes, and musicians we knew.

Later that evening, memories of my journey through Karnatic music began to flood back. I was the youngest of four siblings. My elder sisters were learning vocal music, and their daily practice afforded me some familiarity with the songs and ragas. I picked up the songs by ear and sang them -- in my own style—much to their embarrassment. Eventually, I too was enrolled in vocal classes at a music school that also taught instruments.

The beginners' lessons felt dull since I already knew the basics. What really caught my attention was the flute class in the next room. I was fascinated by the sound of bamboo and the effortless grace with which it was played. I asked my mother to let me switch to flute, but she dismissed it as a passing fancy—the whim of the youngest child whose requests were rarely taken seriously.

Still, my passion for the flute lingered. I joined the school music band, where the flute was one of the instruments, and was given one to practise at home. I began experimenting with tunes and entertaining my family. But as my vocal lessons advanced, and new songs were taught, I returned to singing with renewed interest, leaving behind my flute experiments. Though my singing was not considered as good as my sisters', that never stopped me from performing whenever I could.

At my wedding reception, a flute concert had been arranged, and the artist was none other than the tutor from my music school. He was surprised to see me as the bride and performed with special warmth that evening.

After my wedding, I continued my music lessons, though with frequent breaks. I never aspired to perform publicly; I sang purely for the joy it brought me. I would sing readily with all eagerness whenever asked to sing. Over the years, attending concerts of great artists deepened my connection with the art form and inspired me to volunteer with a local music organisation.

I have a long tenure of over 25 years with this organisation, and I still take pleasure in organising concerts, meeting artists and music enthusiasts, and helping spread Karnatic music in my area of residence. That unexpected meeting with the flautist stirred old memories. I should have perhaps learnt from him, but here I am now, organising his concerts and those of other artists.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Bengaluru must address garbage crisis, reclaim its dignity

Apropos 'HC orders unified tech platform to tackle B'luru's garbage mess' (Nov 7), Bengaluru's garbage crisis has become a civic disgrace, exposing years of administrative neglect and poor waste management planning. The city is drowning in nearly 6,000 tonnes of daily waste, much of it unsegregated and dumped in overflowing landfills. Despite repeated court admonitions, the BBMP's inefficiency and contractor-driven system have failed to deliver sustainable solutions. The Karnataka High Court has now intervened, directing the adoption of feasible technological methods to tackle the crisis. Bengaluru needs a systemic overhaul — transparent operations, penalties for violations, and public participation in managing waste locally. Unless technology is backed by political will and civic discipline, India's Silicon Valley risks becoming its stink capital. The court's push offers a last chance for Bengaluru to reclaim its dignity.
**N Sadhasiva Reddy**, Bengaluru

### Restore trust

Apropos 'Evasive EC erodes trust in poll processes' (Nov 7), Lok Sabha Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi's allegations of widespread voter fraud in the Haryana Assembly election demand serious attention. His claims, drawn from the Election Commission's own data, point to possible manipulation through fake and duplicate entries. The EC's denial and counter-questions cannot substitute for a transparent explanation. When the body entrusted with safeguarding electoral integrity appears evasive, citizens' faith in free and fair elections inevitably weakens. This issue transcends party politics; it is about the trust that sustains democracy. Repeated irregularities in voter rolls across states suggest a deeper institutional failure rather than mere administrative oversight. Asking the Leader of the Opposition to seek judicial remedy sidesteps EC's responsibility for accountability. The EC must act with transparency and urgency to restore credibility.
**K Chidanand Kumar**, Bengaluru

### Ensure road safety

The increasing number of highway accidents across the country is deeply worrying. Every year, thousands of lives are lost in incidents that could easily be prevented. Reckless driving, use of mobile phones while driving, poor road conditions, and weak enforcement of traffic rules are among the major causes. The government must take urgent steps to improve road maintenance and ensure strict implementation of laws. Equally important is creating public awareness about road safety and responsible driving.
**Meghapushpa M Patil**, Vijayapura

Our readers are welcome to email letters to: **letters@deccanherald.co.in** (only letters emailed – not handwritten – will be accepted). All letters must carry the sender's postal address and phone number.

SPEAK OUT

Mahatma Gandhi had said the Congress should be dissolved after independence, but the Gandhi family kept it alive for personal gain...
**Nayab Singh Saini**, Haryana CM

Often the surest way to convey misinformation is to tell the strict truth.
**Mark Twain**

TO BE PRECISE

IN PERSPECTIVE

# At COP30, a case for mineral diplomacy

The summit offers nations a platform to leverage global partnerships in critical minerals for effective climate action

SALONI SACHDEVA MICHAEL AND KAIRA RAKHEJA

As COP30 draws close, expectations are high that nations will work to translate climate commitments into on-the-ground action. The summit offers an opportunity to confront the material realities of the clean energy transition, including the need to secure critical minerals like lithium, cobalt, nickel, copper, graphite, and rare earth elements.

Minerals have long been part of the energy transition conversation. Growing trade tensions, export restrictions, and the weaponisation of mineral supply chains have brought the subject to the forefront. A handful of countries, including China, Indonesia, South Korea, and Japan, control most of the global refining and processing capacity. China alone controls around 90% of rare earth processing, 70% of global cobalt refining, and over 60% of lithium refining. This dominance is a result of two decades of strategic investment in refining, processing, and manufacturing, while other countries remained dependent on imports. In 2025, China imposed export controls on 12 rare earth elements and tightened restrictions across the lithium-ion battery supply chain, showing how such concentration exposes the energy transition to strategic risks, from price volatility to potential supply chain disruptions.

The scale of the challenge is immense. The International Energy Agency under Stated Policies Scenario estimates that the demand for lithium can grow fivefold by 2040, while the demand for graphite and nickel might double. Meanwhile, the demand for cobalt and rare earth elements is likely to increase 50-60% by 2040. In short, minerals are fast becoming the new oil of the 21st century: vital, contested, and geopolitically charged. Like oil, the challenge is not just scarcity; it is concentration. The extraction of critical minerals is often geographically limited to resource-rich but economically vulnerable regions. This imbalance exposes developing economies to the risks of extractive dependence, while leaving manufacturing nations vulnerable to global supply chain disruptions.

Addressing these risks requires greater diversification and coordinated international engagement. COP30 must embed this agenda, recognising supply chain resilience and equitable access as climate imperatives. Global initiatives such as the Minerals Security Partnership (MSP) and the Quad have begun shaping a new architecture for responsible and resilient critical mineral supply chains. Multilateral partnerships like the India-Australia Critical Minerals Partnership and the US-Japan framework underscore this momentum. Together, they aim to align trade and investment priorities, foster technology transfer, and ensure equitable benefit sharing.

Yet, their success will depend on the readiness of individual nations to meaningfully participate in the global critical mineral value chain. This includes policy coherence, institutional coordination, infrastructure, and human resource development, be it in extraction, processing, manufacturing, or recycling.

The path forward lies in translating global and domestic commitments into practical frameworks that strengthen governance, mobilise resources, and build long-term technological capability.

### Road to sustainability

First, countries must move away from past mining models and instead prioritise sustainability and robust environmental, social, and governance standards across the value chain. Tools like AI-based mineral mapping, digital traceability systems, and stronger audit mechanisms can help enhance oversight. Frameworks like the G7 Minerals Action Plan and groupings like the Quad can be leveraged to ensure wider participation in the setting and implementation of global standards.

Second, long-term and targeted financing will be crucial to developing the critical mineral supply chain. Establishing a global clean minerals investment facility could bridge capital and operational expenditure gaps, enable processing and recycling projects beyond traditional monopoly geographies, and mobilise capital alongside development banks and green financing institutions to ensure risk sharing and a steady capital flow.

Third, advancing technology, refining, and recycling will require coordinated leadership from governments, industry, and research institutions. Governments must create enabling policies and funding mechanisms for technology development and skill-building, while industry should invest in modern infrastructure. Universities and research institutes can drive joint R&D and cross-border training in mining, chemical, and process engineering. Partnerships that connect emerging economies like India, Indonesia, and African nations with technology leaders such as Japan and the US can accelerate progress in processing, recycling, and alternative battery chemistries.

COP30 offers a defining moment to turn mineral diplomacy into climate action, ensuring that the race to decarbonise also becomes a race to cooperate, diversify, and build a just and resilient clean energy future.

*(Saloni is Energy Specialist, India Clean Energy Transition, and Kaira is Energy Analyst, South Asia, at the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis [IEEFA])*

# COP30: An Amazon agenda for adaptation

KALYAN RAY
DH NEWS SERVICE

Three developments have set the stage for the 30th Conference of Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, which will start at Brazil's Amazonian city Belém on November 10.

At the UN General Assembly, President Donald Trump returned to climate denialism, dismissing climate change as "the greatest con job ever perpetrated on the world"–nine months after he withdrew the US from the Paris Agreement again. Microsoft Czar Bill Gates has penned a memo noting that it would be better to focus on improving health and prosperity to fight the consequences of climate change as people would continue to live even after emission cut targets would be breached and the earth would become warmer. And, thirdly, Azerbaijan and Brazil–the COP presidents of last year and this year–have released the Baku to Belém Roadmap that underlined that the world would be needing $1.3 trillion annually by 2035 and last year's agreed climate finance of $300 billion was vastly inadequate.

These issues are likely to provide the backdrop for the nations to argue on how to reduce the impacts of global warming, caused by loading of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere for over a century.

They will submit their plans of cutting down their emissions in the next decades. But it is now clear that these Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) are not good enough to restrict the rise of temperature below two degrees Celsius, while pursuing efforts to stay below 1.5 degrees Celsius, as agreed upon in the Paris Agreement.

A new UN report put the global warming projection over this century, based on full implementation of the NDCs, at 2.3-2.5°C; while those based on current policy at 2.8°C. This is a marginal improvement from last year, but way below what's needed.

Annual emissions are to be cut by 35% and 55%, compared with 2019 levels, in 2035 to align with the Paris Agreement 2°C and 1.5°C pathways, respectively. Given the size of the cuts needed, the short time available to deliver them and a challenging political climate, the 1.5°C barrier is very likely to be broken within the next decade.

Gates argues that such a temperature rise is eventual, and it will be better to prepare people on how to live in a warming climate with, by improving their health and wealth – a view with many takers.

This would be discussed threadbare at Belém where adaptation indicators may end up as a headline issue. Climate adaptation means preparing communities for rising temperatures, floods, droughts and storms, for example, by building sea walls, restoring forests or planting resilient crops.

But global progress on adaptation has been slow, limited and fragmented. At COP28, it was decided to have a global framework on climate resilience. At Belem, the countries are to finalise 100 indicators to track progress.

Access to finance and technology will also remain on the agenda. The Baku to Belém roadmap will be a priority for both presidencies after Azerbaijan received widespread flak last year for agreeing to a climate finance of $300 billion.

The developing world makes it clear that the flow of funds and technology from the rich world – responsible for global warming in the first place – has been below par over the years and so the climate finance would have to be additional in nature. In the absence of the United States, it will be interesting to see what role China – the world's biggest emitter – will play.

While India will stick to its stated position of common but differentiated responsibility and respective capabilities, New Delhi will be under focus for being one of the top emitters. The updated NDC and position on local adaptation may become crucial to thwart such scrutiny.

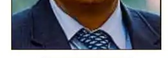
UN CLIMATE SUMMIT
Belém, Brazil
(November 10-21, 2025)
THE BACKDROP:
• UNFCCC process is under stress, hit by budget cuts
• President Donald Trump withdrew the United States from Paris Agreement in January 2025, second time after 2016
• Inadequate climate financing, but worsening climate impacts
• Energy concerns of the developing world and its expectation
• UNEP projected that global warming based on existing policies will rise by 2.8°C by 2100
WHAT'S ON THE AGENDA AT COP30?
NDC:
• Countries to submit their updated NDC (Nationally Determined Contributions) reports for 2026-2035, giving a roadmap on emission cut plans
Adaptation:
• Adaptation vs. mitigation is a hot topic in climate talks
• Parties are expected to finalise 100 adaptation indicators at Belém to track progress
• Less than one-third of climate finance goes to adaptation
• Reviewing adaptation finance needs: Developing countries need $310 billion annually by 2035
Climate Finance:
• Baku to Belém Roadmap released: Target is to get $1.3 trillion per year by 2035
• The roadmap emerges from COP29's inadequate NCQG (New Collective Quantified Goal on climate finance) of $300 billion
• Tropical Forest Forever Facility: A $125 billion blended finance proposed by Brazil
The Reality:
• OECD says developed countries provided and mobilized a total of $115.9 billion in climate finance for developing countries in 2022
• An analysis by Climate Policy Initiative (CPI) estimates that current external finance flows were at $196 billion in 2023, resulting in the need for a more than six-fold increase by 2035
• These climate finance estimates are highly debated
• The Like-Minded Developing Countries (LMDC) bloc insists on climate finance that is additional, predictable, concessional and transparent.
India at COP30
• May submit updated NDC
• To stress on common but differentiated responsibility
• To insist on raising the $300 billion climate finance goal
• To push for local adaptation
• To call for fair, country specific adaptation metrics
• To demand strengthening implementation
• To call for multilateral bank reforms and transparency in regulatory affairs
Climate change is the greatest con job ever perpetrated on the world
Donald Trump
President, US
The world has failed to ensure global warming remains below 1.5°C
António Guterres
Secretary General, UN
COP30 should be the COP of Adaptation.
Bhupender Yadav
Minister for Environment, India
COMPILED BY KALYAN RAY, DHNS

## A decade from Paris pledges to Belém bargains

RAJANI RANJAN RASHMI

COP30 marks 10 years of implementation of the Paris Agreement. It is also the year when all signatories to the Paris Agreement are mandated to revise their current Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and submit fresh ones. The NDCs were revised or updated last in 2021. Although India is performing well in achieving its current targets, the world is not on track to stabilise the climate below 1.5°C above the pre-industrial level because of very large emissions gap.

The Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) is one of the major deliverables expected at COP30 in Belém. The indicator framework for this goal is currently under preparation, and it is hoped that it would be finalized at Belém. This framework will establish indicators and outcomes for tracking adaptation progress. However, one crucial issue is determining the extent to which the means of implementation such as finance, technology, and capacity building will be integrated into this set of indicators. If these indicators are clearly defined, there is a likelihood of greater financial flows for adaptation activities linked to measurable outcomes. India is already spending about 2.5–3.5% of GDP on various development programmes that yield adaptation co-benefits. What is needed is an assurance of higher financial flows from international and global sources.



Another key deliverable is the roadmap for mobilizing $1.3 trillion under the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) for climate finance. This is additional to the $300 billion goal set for developed countries. Achieving the $1.3 trillion goal will require contributions not only from governments but also multilateral development banks, private investors, equity funds, financial institutions, sovereign wealth funds, and global pension funds that manage large pools of capital. The roadmap must clearly outline the contributions expected from each stakeholder group, the potential financial instruments, and the fiscal or other policy interventions required to support this mobilization.

The challenge in mobilizing $1.3 trillion lies not only in government commitments but also in ensuring that international capital from financial markets becomes accessible at lower costs. The suggestions include sources or instruments, such as sovereign wealth funds, debt-swaps, blended finance, and other arrangements to help de-risk green investments. These solutions are not universally acceptable. Insistence on public funding and reform of the multilateral banking system are likely to dominate the discussions in Belém.

The issue of unilateral measures aimed at enforcing pre-determined carbon prices and uniform policies across jurisdictions may also receive attention at COP30. Such measures are divisive because the levels of industrial development, decarbonization strategies, and goals vary significantly across countries. For instance, India's NDC focuses on reducing emissions intensity, not absolute emissions. In contrast, the European Union, which is attempting to apply uniform carbon standards on its trading partners, is obliged under the Paris Agreement to reduce emission absolutely. The issue requires careful handling through bilateral discussions and mutual recognition of decarbonisation efforts at sectoral and national level based on equity.

The absence of the United States at COP30 may influence private sector engagement in clean energy investments and the process of fossil fuel phasedown. However, the commitment of the international community to the Paris goals is steadfast and positive. Recent geopolitical and economic shifts may well have strengthened the process of development and deployment of clean energy technologies in non-western jurisdictions.

*(The writer is a Distinguished Fellow at TERI and a former climate negotiator)*

## SCIENCE & ENVIRONMENT

# The future of wolves in vanishing grasslands

### Survival of wolves depends on what happens outside protected zones, writes Atula Gupta

In January this year, the dry grasslands of Bankapur came alive with the yips of new life — a litter of Indian wolf pups, born inside Karnataka's only dedicated wolf sanctuary. The news triggered cautious celebration. But the deeper question is, what comes next? Can Karnataka become more than just a rare pocket of survival for wolves?

India's grey wolves *(Canis lupus pallipes)* have an ancient lineage. Genetic studies suggest they split from other wolves nearly 400,000 years ago, long before modern humans. They are ghosts of the subcontinent's grasslands, shaped not by snow and conifers like their western counterparts, but by thorn scrub, rolling savannas, and semi-arid plains. They have long existed in the shadow of India's larger predators — tigers, lions, and leopards.

On October 10, 2025, a global panel from the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) finally classified the Indian wolf as a potentially distinct species. It designated it as 'vulnerable', elevating the urgency of conserving it.

According to a 2023 Wildlife Institute of India study, there are an estimated 2,400–3,100 wolves left in the country. Karnataka holds a small but crucial share of this population, spread across Koppal, Gadag, Bagalkot, Chitradurga, and Haveri.

"As a child in the 1960s, I used to see wolves often. By the time I returned to the grasslands in 2014, I had not seen one for 30 years when I chanced upon a lone wolf close to home. This gave me hope — that somehow they had survived," recalls Indrajeet Ghorpade, a wildlife photographer and conservationist from north Karnataka.

Driven by the idea that wolves were still in the vicinity, Ghorpade founded the Deccan Conservation Foundation and partnered with researchers such as Iravatee Majgaonkar to map wolf habitats across Koppal and neighbouring districts. Their work led to the recognition of Bankapur as a breeding site and, subsequently, the creation of the 332-hectare Bankapur Wolf Sanctuary by the state government.

"For me, Bankapur was like a maternity ward that had to be protected," Ghorpade says. The Forest Department fenced the area, reduced human interference, and initiated awareness drives among nearby villages to protect the caves where wolves were giving birth to the next generation.

However, a single sanctuary is not the solution, feels Ghorpade. Its rocky outcrops and grassy patches may offer temporary refuge to a handful of packs. Yet, the future of wolves in Karnataka — and across India — depends on what happens outside protected zones.

### Protecting grasslands

Iravatee Majgaonkar, a PhD student at ATREE, says the key to wolf conservation lies in reimagining conservation itself.

"Indian wolves are largely found in human-dominated landscapes — a mix of rocky outcrops, grasslands, and rainfed agriculture," she explains. "Sanctuaries can support a few packs, but long-term survival depends on maintaining populations outside these protected areas."

For decades, India's conservation policies focused almost exclusively on forests. However, about 10% of India's landmass consists of Open Natural Ecosystems — landscapes with a dry climate, low tree cover, and short vegetation. The absence of trees is not a flaw, but the essence of this ecosystem.

"Protected areas have a forest bias," Majgaonkar notes. Indian wolves, striped hyenas, blackbucks, foxes, jackals, and the rare Great Indian Bustard inhabit the opposite of forests — the dry, treeless expanses of grassland and scrub.

"Free-ranging dog populations are in direct competition for food and space. There are sporadic retaliatory killings that go unreported. But the largest impact comes from land-use change — agricultural expansion, industrial projects, and so-called greening drives involving tree plantations," says Majgaonkar, whose research delves into coexistence between wildlife, pastoralists, and farmers.

Projects such as the Hesaraghatta grasslands plantation drive by the Bangalore Development Authority — which led to campaigns and eventually the state government's notification to declare it as Greater Hesaraghatta Grassland Conservation Reserve — show how grasslands are wrongly assumed to be barren lands that must be 'turned green'.

### Lessons to learn

In Gujarat, wolves bred in captivity, trained and re-wilded under a monitored programme, produced their first wild pup a couple of months ago. It showed what sustained, science-backed intervention can achieve when paired with local involvement.

In Jharkhand's Mahuadanr Sanctuary, local tribals avoid entering the Sal forests during winter, giving wolves time to den and procreate peacefully. Coexistence for them is a natural way of life.

Ghorpade points to similar sentiments among the Kuruba nomadic graziers of Karnataka. The pastoral community is not anguished when wolves lift diseased sheep from their herds and see it as nature's culling system.

Any conservation effort must begin with locals, feels Ghorpade. "You can't fence out a species that has lived alongside shepherds for centuries," he says. "You have to make the wolf part of the village story again through education, fair compensation, and pride."

If Karnataka wants to secure a future for its wolves, it must look beyond enclosures and sanctuaries. It must invest in community partnerships, dog population control, habitat connectivity, and grassland restoration policies that value the open lands wolves inhabit.

As Ghorpade puts it, "Grassland restoration isn't just about wolves. It brings back blackbuck, bustards, and countless smaller species that depend on the same ecosystem. The wolf becomes an umbrella — if it thrives, so does everything else."

*(The author is a science and environment writer who works on endangered species and biodiversity conservation)*

DID YOU KNOW?

## A wormhole to connect two blackholes

For obvious reasons, we do not know what the inside of a black hole looks like. But thanks to theoretical physics, we can ask what the inside should look like if Einstein's theory of gravity and the rules of quantum mechanics are both true. A new study published in the journal *Physical Review Letters* has done exactly this by concentrating on two black holes that are deeply entangled (linked together by quantum rules).

The research by scientists from the US and Argentina theoretically mapped the shared inner space between the two objects—the wormhole connecting them. They found that for a typical, messy entangled pair, the interior isn't the smooth tunnel of science fiction.

Instead, it's a long, lumpy structure they called the "Einstein-Rosen caterpillar", named after the Einstein-Rosen Bridge, a mathematical structure that connects two regions of spacetime, and "caterpillar" because of its bumpy, segmented shape. This discovery is a significant step toward proving that the bizarre rules of quantum mechanics can control the shape of spacetime inside a black hole.

To map the complex interior, the researchers started with a simple theoretical model of a perfect, smooth wormhole that has an ordered quantum state. Then, to mimic a chaotic black hole pair, the team used a computer simulation to scramble the quantum connection between them. Finally, they calculated the wormhole's resulting geometry. To keep the system stable during this chaos, the wormhole had to be long and bumpy.

This finding revealed a direct mathematical link between the quantum chaos and the size of the wormhole. The more random and chaotic the quantum state of the black holes, the more complex the physical wormhole connecting them becomes. "The ensemble of ER caterpillars of average length l and matter correlation scale lΔ forms an -approximate quantum state k design of the black holes for k ₹ (l—l )/ lΔ," wrote the researchers.

The implications of finding this long, stable caterpillar wormhole could be huge for a major conflict in physics known as the firewall paradox. Some theories suggest that the interior of a typical black hole should not be smooth or stable. Instead, spacetime could be violently broken at the edge of the black hole by a curtain of energy called a "firewall." In the models studied by the researchers, even when quantum entanglement is messy and random, the wormhole remains a predictable, stable tunnel where the classical laws of gravity still hold.

This result supports the idea that two of the strangest concepts in physics (quantum entanglement and wormholes) are equivalent, or two sides of the same coin—the ER=EPR conjecture. The authors say, "The construction and main result of this Letter support a vastly more general form of ER=EPR and seem to be in some tension with arguments against semiclassicality of typical interiors."

**-Phys.org**

## Assam govt to resume eviction drive

**GUWAHATI, DHNS:** After a brief pause due to the sudden death of singer Zubeen Garg, the Assam government will resume the eviction drive.

The state forest department will carry out evictions at Dahikata forests in Goalpara, a Muslim-dominated district in western Assam, where more than 1,100 bighas of land have been "illegally occupied".

"Evictions against Miyan Muslims will continue till I remain the Chief Minister, no matter what. We had to pause for a while due to the sudden death of Zubeen Garg. But we will ensure that all forests and government lands are cleared from encroachment by the Miya Muslims," Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said on Thursday evening.

Fearing evictions, several residents of Dahikata forest on Friday left the area and dismantled their houses, forest department officials said.

"Many have dismantled the houses and left with their belongings. But we will carry out the evictions where people are still there and where they constructed concrete houses. All these are illegal settlers," said an official.

# 'Divisive': PM slams Cong on Vande Mataram

## Says party dropped stanzas of national song in 1937

NEW DELHI, DHNS

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said that the Congress, due to its "divisive mindset", had dropped stanzas from Vande Mataram, which eventually "sowed the seeds" of Partition. Speaking at an event to mark 150 years of the national song, Modi said the omissions became "a part of its soul".

During the event, the PM also released a commemorative stamp and coin, describing Vande Mataram as "a word, a mantra, an energy, a dream, a resolve".

"Vande Mataram became the voice of India's freedom struggle; it expressed the feelings of every Indian. But, unfortunately, in 1937, important stanzas of Vande Mataram — a part of its soul — were severed. This division also sowed the seeds of Partition," Modi said.

He added that the younger generation should be aware of this. "Young people should know why this injustice was done to this 'maha mantra' of nation-building... this divisive mindset remains a challenge for the country," he said.

"Vande Mataram is a true symbol of India's unity as it has inspired generations. As we mark 150 years of Vande Mataram, this will give us new inspiration and fill the people of the country with new energy," PM Modi said.

**DEBATE AT 150**

- Modi says Congress' omissions 'sowed the seeds of Partition'
- Stamp, coin released at 150-year celebration of national song
- BJP alleges Nehru-led Cong truncated verses praising Goddess Durga
- Cong says Tagore himself suggested adopting only first two stanzas

Prime Minister Narendra Modi at an exhibition in New Delhi. Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat is also seen. PTI

The original poem by Bankim Chandra Chatterjee, from which the national song was adapted, comprised six stanzas, with the later verses referencing Hindu goddesses such as Durga and Lakshmi. In 1937, at its Faizabad session, the Indian National Congress adopted only the first two stanzas for public use.

First published in the literary journal Bangadarshan and later included in the novel Anandamath, the poem was adopted by the Constituent Assembly on January 24, 1950, as the national song of India. The 150-year celebration, scheduled from November 7, 2025, to November 7, 2026, aims to reignite the song's original revolutionary spirit among the youth and the nation at large.

### Nehru, Tagore invoked

Earlier in the day, the BJP alleged that the Congress, "brazenly pandering to its communal agenda under the presidentship of Jawaharlal Nehru", adopted only a truncated Vande Mataram.

"The Congress under Nehru, citing religious grounds, deliberately removed stanzas of Vande Mataram which hailed Goddess Ma Durga," BJP spokesperson CR Kesavan charged in a post on X.

The Congress hit back, saying Rabindranath Tagore himself had suggested that the first two stanzas of the song be adopted.

It was "shameful" of the prime minister to accuse the Nobel laureate of harbouring a divisive ideology, the party said.

## Cong is 'proud flagbearer' of Vande Mataram: Kharge

**NEW DELHI, DHNS:** Reaffirming the Congress' "unshakable faith" in Vande Mataram on the occasion marking its 150 years of existence, party president Mallikarjun Kharge on Friday accused the RSS and the BJP of never singing the national song in their shakhas or offices.

Kharge said the Congress, on the other hand, takes "immense pride" in both Vande Mataram and the national anthem, Jana Gana Mana, singing both with "reverence" at every party event. The attack came days after he said he personally advocated a ban on the Sangh fountainhead.

In a message on the 150th anniversary of Vande Mataram, written by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay, he recalled that the song, which appeared in the novel Ananthmath, was first sung publicly by Rabindranath Tagore at the 1896 Congress Session in Kolkata, chaired by its then-president Rahmatullah Sayani.

Kharge said Tagore's rendition "infused new life into the freedom struggle", and the Congress understood that the British Empire's divide-and-rule policy — by manipulating religious, caste, and regional identities — was designed to break India's unity.

He said Vande Mataram rose as a "song of unflinching strength, uniting all Indians in devotion to Bharat Mata". Recalling several other occasions when it was sung, with the Congress becoming its "proud flagbearer", he said, "However, it is deeply ironic that those who today claim to be the self-proclaimed guardians of nationalism — the RSS and the BJP — never sang Vande Mataram or Jana Gana Mana in their shakhas or offices."

Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge during a rally at Chenari, Bihar. PTI

## SC upholds demolition of 200-year-old Takiya Masjid

**NEW DELHI, DHNS:** The Supreme Court on Friday affirmed the Madhya Pradesh High Court's order upholding the demolition of the 200-year-old Takiya Masjid in Ujjain.

The court dismissed a plea seeking reconstruction of the mosque.

The court found no infirmity in the HC's decision and observed that the petitioners were free to pursue remedies available under the law, including compensation.

Senior advocate M R Shamshad, appearing for the petitioners, argued that the mosque had been razed to expand a parking facility for the adjoining Mahakaleshwar Temple.

He challenged the HC's observation that the right to practise religion has no connection with any particular place.

The court, however, said, "The High Court has given sound reasoning that compensation shall be paid, if warranted. There is nothing in it. You have your remedies under the law." The court thus quashed petition filed by 13 Ujjain residents who said they regularly offered namaz at Takiya Masjid.

## Munde plotted to have me eliminated: Jarange-Patil

**MUMBAI, DHNS:** The reservation issue involving the Marathas and Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in Maharashtra saw a major development on Friday when Manoj Jarange-Patil alleged that NCP leader Dhananjay Munde had hatched a plot to eliminate him.

Munde, a former minister who hails from the OBC-Vanjari community, replied that the Central Bureau of Investigation must probe the Maratha quota campaigner's allegations.

Munde, the son of late Pandit Anna Munde and nephew of the late Gopinath Munde, is considered close to Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis and Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar, who is the NCP president.

The charges and counter-charges involving Jarange-Patil and Munde, an MLA from Parli in the Beed district, could influence the politics of the Marathwada region, where the Maratha and OBC communities' differences are visible.

# Fadnavis govt scraps Pune land deal, but political heat rises for Ajit Pawar

## Oppn attacks Maha govt; Rahul Gandhi questions PM Modi's silence

**MRITYUNJAY BOSE**
MUMBAI, DHNS

In a damage-control exercise, Maharashtra's Devendra Fadnavis-led Maha Yuti government on Friday scrapped the controversial land deal in Pune involving Ajit Pawar's son Parth, even as troubles continue to mount for the deputy chief minister, with the Opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi calling for his resignation or dismissal.

The Opposition asked why no FIR was lodged against Parth in the alleged land-grabbing deal.

In a related development, Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi accused the Maha Yuti of engaging in "zameen chori" (land theft) after coming to power through "vote chori" (vote theft), and questioned Prime Minister Narendra Modi's silence on the issue.

Meanwhile, the three-member committee formed by the state government to investigate the issue has been expanded to accommodate six members.

Besides, the Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of the Pune Police has taken over the investigation into the allegations from the Bavdhan Police Station, which registered an FIR in the case following instructions from the Maharashtra government.

**PAWAR-PLAY**

- Maharashtra DyCM says he never broke rules in 35-year political career
- Says: 'If anyone from my family or close to me tries to do something wrong, I will never support it'
- Rahul Gandhi accuses state govt of 'zameen chori' (land theft) after coming to power through 'vote chori' (vote theft)
- 3-member committee formed to investigate the issue expanded to accommodate 6 members

### 'Asked CM for probe'

"The land deal has been scrapped... All the transactions have been cancelled," Pawar — also the NCP President — told reporters hours after he met Fadnavis. He reiterated that he never flouted the rules and his 35-year political career.

"If anyone from my family or close to me tries to do something wrong, I will never support it. I have gathered all the information about the case. I called the chief minister and told him that he can order a probe," he said.

It is alleged that 40 acres of Mahar Watan land, denoting hereditary landholding of the Mahar (Scheduled Caste) community, in Pune's upmarket Mundhwa area off the Koregaon Park in Pune was sold to Amadea Enterprises LLP, represented by its partner Digvijay Amarsinh Patil, for Rs 300 crore, and the stamp duty on it was waived. The market value of the property is said to be Rs 1,800 crore.

### EOW starts probe

Meanwhile, the Pune Police's EOW has taken over the investigation. However, Pune Police chief Amitesh Kumar refused to comment on the probe.

"The documents and papers related to the transactions are being examined... We will chart the course of investigation based on them," he said.

Police said the FIR — which names nine persons, including Pune City Tehsildar Suryakant Yeole, Dhananjay Patil, and Sheetal Tejwani — has been lodged under the cheating and criminal breach of trust provisions of the Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita.

# Kurnool tragedy: Bus owner held

**S N V SUDHIR**
HYDERABAD, DHNS

Nearly two weeks after the Kurnool bus tragedy that claimed 19 lives, V Kaveri Travels owner Vemuri Vinod Kumar was arrested on Friday morning.

The Kurnool police apprehended Vinod — the second accused (A2) in the FIR — and produced him before a local court. However, the Kurnool Special Mobile Court judge granted him bail on a self-bond. Vinod's arrest follows that of driver M Laksmaiah.

The bus caught fire in the early hours of October 24 on the Kurnool highway after dragging a motorcycle. Preliminary investigations by multiple agencies revealed serious violations, including illegal modification of the bus from a seater to a sleeper configuration and the absence of proper emergency exits.

A native of the Prakasam district, Vinod comes from a family long involved in the travel business. After parting ways with a former partner a few years ago, he established Vemuri Kaveri Travels, also known as V Kaveri Travels.

Initial inspection by the Andhra Pradesh Road Transport Authority revealed that V Kaveri Travels flouted nearly all safety norms mandated for AC sleeper buses. State RTA sources indicated that the Scania-made AC bus likely did not receive approval for conversion into a sleeper coach. Registered as a 43-seater, it had been modified to accommodate 42 berths, both upper and lower.

Under the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, AC sleeper buses must comply with strict safety standards outlined in the Automotive Industry Standards (AIS), which regulate vehicle construction, fire safety, emergency exits, and interior material use.

Every sleeper coach must be fitted with a Fire Detection and Suppression System in accordance with AIS 135:2016 to detect and automatically suppress fires in the passenger area. The V Kaveri bus, however, lacked this system.

Materials used in the bus must be fire-retardant under IS 15061:2002 standards. Officials said the materials used in this bus were highly flammable.

## Animal lovers protest order to shift dogs from public places

**MUMBAI & NEW DELHI, DHNS/ PTI:** Animal lovers and caregivers once again took to the streets on Friday, demanding the withdrawal of the Supreme Court order directing authorities to shift stray dogs from public places to designated shelters.

The Apex Court, citing an "alarming rise" in dog bite incidents in institutional areas such as educational centres, hospitals, bus stands and railway stations, had ordered that such canines be moved to shelter homes.

Scores of protesters gathered at Connaught Place to oppose the decision. The demonstration was later dispersed, with several protesters detained by the Delhi Police.

Meanwhile, the Federation of Indian Animal Protection Organisations (FIAPO) has termed the order as unexpected and unimplementable, which flies in the face of the Animal Birth Control (ABC) Rules 2023.

# Land acquisition for new Chennai airport accelerates despite protests

**E T B SIVAPRIYAN**
CHENNAI, DHNS

Despite fierce opposition from a section of villagers, the Tamil Nadu government has quietly acquired over 30% of the nearly 3,800 acres to be purchased from individual landowners to build a greenfield airport for Chennai in Parandur in the Kanchipuram district.

The government hopes to acquire another 40% from private owners by February 2026, before the state enters the Assembly election mode.

Of the 5,746 acres needed for the Rs 27,000-crore project, the state owns about 1,900 acres and has decided to acquire 3,800 acres across 13 revenue villages. Of this, over 1,100 acres have been transferred to its name from private individuals since July.

**The stumbling block is the Ekanapuram village, where residents have been protesting against the project since August 2022.**

"These lands are located in less problematic areas where people willingly gave away their properties for compensation," a source involved in the project told *DH*.

The source said authorities in the Kanchipuram district were confident of acquiring another 1,000-1,500 acres by February 2026, taking the total to 2,600 acres, leaving about another 1,200 acres to be bought.

"Initially, villagers showed hesitancy in handing over the land for the project, but the compensation package, which is about three to seven times higher than the guideline value in the area fixed by the government and includes rehabilitation, helped break the ice," the source added.

The stumbling block is the Ekanapuram village, where residents have been protesting against the project since August 2022. The project cannot take off without acquiring land from this hamlet.

This is likely to delay the project by at least a year.

## Be vigilant, CM Stalin tells DMK cadres on SIR

**CHENNAI, DHNS:** Asking his party cadres to act as "guardians of democracy", DMK president M K Stalin on Friday exhorted them to ensure that "vote theft" in states like Karnataka and Haryana does not repeat in Tamil Nadu by being vigilant through the three-month-long Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

Stalin also took a swipe at actor Vijay without naming him, saying some people's pipe dream of destroying the DMK will never come true. "This is a movement that saw the Emergency of 1975. We see people take a vow to wipe out the DMK. Their pipe dreams will never come true," Stalin said.

# DMK's SIR petition in SC on Nov 11

**ASHISH TRIPATHI**
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Supreme Court on Friday agreed to hear on November 11 a plea filed by Tamil Nadu's ruling party DMK, challenging the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) ordered by the Election Commission.

The revision of electoral rolls started before the ongoing Bihar Assembly elections on June 24, was expanded to cover 51 crore voters in 12 States and Union Territories, including Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Kerala and Puducherry.

A bench led by Chief Justice of India B R Gavai said, the court will list the case for hearing on Tuesday, November 11.

The ruling DMK on Monday filed a petition before the Supreme Court for quashing the EC's order for SIR of electoral rolls, scheduled to begin across Tamil Nadu on November 4.

**PETITION**

"SIR will arbitrarily, unjustifiably and illegally disenfranchise lakhs of citizens from electing their representatives.

Terming the exercise as unconstitutional, the petitioner claimed that it was aimed at mass disenfranchisement by introducing an arbitrary cut-off date (2002/2005) and by excluding commonly used documents such as ration card, PAN card and Voter ID from the purview of the process.

It claimed that the SIR constituted a violation of fundamental rights guaranteed under the Constitution, including equality before law (Article 14), the right to freedom of movement and residence (Article 19), and protection of life and personal liberty (Article 21).

"SIR will arbitrarily, unjustifiably and illegally disenfranchise lakhs of citizens from electing their representatives, thereby disrupting free and fair elections and democracy, which is part of the basic structure of the constitution," the plea said.

The plea also contended the decision violated the guarantee of substantive equality under Article 14 and the right to universal adult suffrage under Article 326. It also argued that the "callous" attitude of ECI in conducting SIR is also marred by insufficient time for grievance redressal. The plea challenged the EC's June 24 and October 27 orders, which directed the conduct of SIR.

## 'Illegal' nuke activities are in keeping with Pak's history: India

**NEW DELHI, PTI:** India on Friday noted US President Donald Trump's comments about Pakistan testing nuclear weapons and said Islamabad's "clandestine" nuclear activities were centred around decades of smuggling, export control violations and secret partnerships.

Last week, Trump named Pakistan among the countries testing nuclear weapons. "Clandestine and illegal nuclear activities are in keeping with Pakistan's history, that is centered around decades of smuggling, export control violations, secret partnerships, AQ Khan network and further proliferation," MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said, responding to Trump's remarks,

**COMBAT BOOST**

# HAL signs deal to buy 113 US engines for Tejas fighter jets

The engine deliveries will commence from 2027 and are scheduled to be completed by 2032.
REUTERS FILE

**KALYAN RAY**
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited on Friday signed a new contract with US major General Electric to purchase 113 F-404 engines to power 97 Tejas Light Combat Aircraft Mk-1A that the HAL would be manufacturing for the Indian Air Force.

"HAL entered into an agreement with General Electric on November 7, 2025, for the supply of 113 F404-GE-IN20 engines and a support package for the execution of the 97 LCA Mk1A programme," the Bengaluru-based state-owned aviation company said in a brief statement.

The engine deliveries will commence from 2027 and are scheduled to be completed by 2032.

The agreement with the engine supplier is inked within six weeks of the defence ministry entering into a pact with the HAL to buy 97 Tejas LCA Mk-1A at Rs 62,370 crore.

The mega deal to procure 68 fighters and 29 twin-seater trainer aircraft would commence by 2027-28 and is to be completed in six years.

In 2021, the HAL signed an agreement with GE to supply 99 F404 engines for the manufacturing of 83 Tejas LCA MK-1 combat jets for the IAF. After a delay of nearly two years, the US major has started supplying the engines this year, with HAL receiving four F404 engines so far.

HAL officials claimed the company was unable to supply the indigenous combat jets to the IAF because of the delay in engine supply.

# Modi to flag off 4 Vande Bharat trains today

**SANJAY PANDEY**
LUCKNOW, DHNS

Prime minister Narendra Modi on Friday met senior BJP leaders in his Lok Sabha constituency of Varanasi and also held a roadshow.

The prime minister, who arrived in Varanasi on Friday evening, would flag off four new Vande Bharat trains on Saturday morning before leaving for Darbhanga in Bihar, where he would address an election rally.

According to the BJP sources, state BJP president Bhupendra Choudhary, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and some other senior party leaders were in the meeting, which lasted for around one hour.

Sources that the agenda of the meeting included discussion on the electorally important Poorvanchal (eastern UP) region.

The prime minister will also review the ongoing developmental projects in his Parliamentary constituency.

Modi will flag off four Vande Bharat trains, including Banaras-Khajuraho Vande Bharat, Lucknow-Sharanpur Vande Bharat, Firozpur-Delhi Vande Bharat and Ernakulam-Bengaluru Vande Bharat on Saturday.

Earlier, the PM held a roadshow. BJP workers turned out in large numbers to welcome him along the 27-km route to the Banaras Rail Engine Factory Guest House. People showered flower petals on his cavalcade amidst chanting of 'Har Har Mahadev'.

# Pilot cannot be blamed for AI flight crash: SC

## Seeks Centre's response and agrees to take up the matter on November 10

ASHISH TRIPATHI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Supreme Court on Friday said no blame could be attributed to the pilot of the Air India flight to London that crashed in Ahmedabad in June this year, claiming 260 lives

It said: "Whatever is the cause of the tragedy, the pilot is not the cause."

A bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi was hearing a petition filed by Pushkar Raj Sabharwal — the father of Commander Sumeet Sabharwal, one of the pilots of the ill-fated flight — seeking a judicially monitored committee headed by a former judge of the apex court to conduct a probe into the crash.

The plea, filed by Sabharwal with the Federation of Indian Pilots, contended that the preliminary investigation into the crash was profoundly flawed.

**"It is extremely unfortunate that this accident took place and he lost his son... But he should not carry this burden that his son is being accused or blamed... We will clarify; nobody can blame him for anything"**

Senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayana, representing the petitioners, contended that his clients sought an impartial investigation as the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) probe was not independent. He asked the bench to direct a judicially monitored probe under Rule 12 of the Aircraft (Investigation of Accidents and Incidents) Rules, which mandates impartiality in accident investigations.

Hearing the counsel, the bench said: "It is extremely unfortunate that this accident took place and he lost his son... But he should not carry this burden that his son is being accused or blamed... We will clarify; nobody can blame him for anything."

Sankaranarayana cited an article carried by the Wall Street Journal based on information from the AAIB investigation.

"We are not bothered about what a foreign press... Your suit should have been against WSJ in an American court," the bench said.

The counsel said on August 3, respondent number 3, who did the preliminary investigation, sent two officers to the house of his client, who is now 91.

He said officers told his client that therefore his son had depression, while criticising the conduct of the investigators.

The bench noted that India was a country of 142 crore people. "None of them have any belief that there was any fault with the pilot. Whatever is the cause of the tragedy, the pilot is not the cause," the bench said.

Upon hearing submissions, the court sought a response from the Central government and agreed to take up the matter, along with a related plea, on November 10.

# BJP asked me to demand AIADMK unification: Sengottaiyan

E T B SIVAPRIYAN
CHENNAI, DHNS

Expelled AIADMK leader K A Sengottaiyan on Friday claimed he demanded the unification of the party in public only after the BJP asked him to do so to strengthen the organisation. Sengottaiyan's remarks give credence to what was being whispered within the AIADMK—the BJP wants general secretary Edappadi K Palaniswami to accommodate expelled leaders such as V K Sasikala, O Panneerselvam, and T T V Dhinakaran into the party.

Sengottaiyan, who was associated with the AIADMK since its founding by the legendary M G Ramachandran in 1972, was expelled from the party on October 31, a day after he met Panneerselvam and Dhinakaran and pitched the need for an "unified" A I A D M K. However, the senior leader refused to accept the expulsion and is mulling moving the Election Commission of India (ECI) to challenge Palaniswami's appointment as GS in 2022.

Sengottaiyan

Speaking to reporters in his native Gobichettipalayam, Sengottaiyan said he will decide on the future course of his action very soon when asked whether he will launch a new party. The legislator reiterated that six senior leaders of the AIADMK, including himself, met Palaniswami after the 2024 Lok Sabha debacle and asked him to revive ties with the BJP and bring back expelled leaders. However, he said, Palaniswami did not agree to their demand then and criticised them for their idea.

"It was the BJP that invited me. They told me that the AIADMK should be united, and I should speak about it. Their intention was that the party should be strong, and they never asked me to raise rebellion," he said. "I also told them that the AIADMK and BJP need each other and that the saffron party should help us win Tamil Nadu in 2026," Sengottaiyan added.

Ever since Sengottaiyan began speaking against Palaniswami in February 2025, political circles have been abuzz with rumours that the BJP is against him.

# Eminent physicist Naresh Dadhich dies at 81

Naresh Dadhich

**MUMBAI, DHNS:** Eminent theoretical physicist and environmentalist Prof Naresh Dadhich, co-founder of the Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA) in Pune, passed away in Beijing after a brief illness. He was 81.

Prof Dadhich, who founded IUCAA along with the late Prof Jayant Narlikar and Prof Ajit Kembhavi, leaves behind a rich legacy of scientific research and academic leadership. He was regarded as a seeker of truth, a torchbearer of reason, and a bridge between science and society. Known for his deep understanding of politics, he was present as a national guest when Nelson Mandela took the oath as President of South Africa.

He is survived by his wife Sadhana, and children Jui and Nishith. Sadhana Dadhich, an activist with the Nari Samata Manch in Pune's Bhimashankar tribal belt, is closely associated with environmental causes and the Narmada Bachao Andolan.

Efforts are underway to bring his mortal remains back to India.

Born on 1 September 1944 in Rajasthan's Churu district, Prof Dadhich rose from humble beginnings to become one of India's foremost scientists. His research covered General Relativity, Quantum Gravity, Braneworld Cosmologies, and Wormholes, among other fields. He also explored higher-dimensional Gauss–Bonnet gravity and its implications for four-dimensional spacetime.

# UP court rejects plea against Rahul over his 'fighting Indian state' remark

LUCKNOW, DHNS

In a major relief to former Congress president and Leader of the Opposition (LoP) in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, a court in Uttar Pradesh's Chandausi district on Friday rejected a petition filed against him over his reported remarks that the Congress was 'fighting the Indian State'.

Additional district judge (MP-MLA Court) Aarti Faujdar dismissed the petition, filed by an office bearer of the saffron outfit Hindu Shakti Dal a few months back.

Earlier, the court had reserved its judgment in the matter on October 28 after hearing the lawyers of both sides.

Hindu Shakti Dal president Simran Gupta had filed a revision petition in the court after an ADJ court had rejected her application in the matter.

Rahul had reportedly said in January this year that we are not fighting the BJP and the RSS but the Indian State itself. His remarks had evoked sharp reactions from the BJP leaders, who had termed it 'anti-national'.

The petitioner had contended that Rahul's remark could have a destabilizing effect on the country.

# MISCELLANY

## ◆ COMICS ◆

### Blondie

BOY, WHAT I WOULDN'T GIVE TO BE AN INFLUENCER!
WHY DO YOU WANT TO BE AN INFLUENCER SO BADLY, SWEETIE?
I JUST WISH I COULD INFLUENCE OTHER PEOPLE'S LIVES IN MEANINGFUL WAYS, YOU KNOW?
THAT'S REALLY NICE, HONEY... HOW SO?
I WISH I COULD INFLUENCE THEM TO HELP MAKE ME AN INFLUENCER!!

### Hagar The Horrible

### Beetle Bailey

### Peanuts

LAST WEEK MY MOTHER SAID TO ME, "EUDORA, I THINK YOU SHOULD GO TO SUMMER CAMP!"
SO HERE I AM IN THE WILDERNESS
IT'S NOT TOO BAD... YOU MAY EVEN LIKE IT...
SO I'LL ASK YOU THE SAME THING I ASKED HER...
WHAT IF I GET EATEN BY AN ANTELOPE?

### Marvin

## JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ZOWYO

UCSTO

ASGYSL

NCSAAV

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek
Reaching mile 20 took forever! The rest was just a blur. Let's talk later.
FINISH
Yeah, I need some rest. See ya!
1754
4/30
NOW THAT THEY'D COMPLETED THE 26-MILE RACE, IT WAS TIME ---
Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: LEAKY LOCAL BOOKIE TRUDGE
Answer: They thought the slight increase in the fee to cross the bridge was — "TOLL-ERABLE"

## ◆SU-DO-KU-6746◆

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | 7 | 1 | | 4 | |
| | | | 6 | | | | | |
| 6 | | | 4 | 3 | | 7 | 8 | |
| | 2 | | | 8 | | | | |
| 5 | 4 | | | | | | 1 | 8 |
| | | | | 1 | | | 3 | |
| | 5 | 3 | | 4 | 8 | | | 1 |
| | | | | | 3 | | | |
| | 6 | | 5 | 9 | | | | |

medium

SOLUTION TO 6745

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 3 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 9 | 6 | 7 | 2 |
| 7 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 9 |
| 4 | 9 | 2 | 7 | 6 | 8 | 3 | 1 | 5 |
| 5 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 9 | 3 | 7 | 2 | 1 |
| 2 | 1 | 9 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 3 |
| 3 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 9 | 4 |
| 9 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 7 | 2 | 5 | 6 |
| 8 | 2 | 5 | 9 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 7 |
| 6 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 9 | 3 | 8 |

**To solve the puzzle:** To solve a su-do-ku puzzle, every digit from1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows, and in each of the nine boxes.

## HITORI-3200

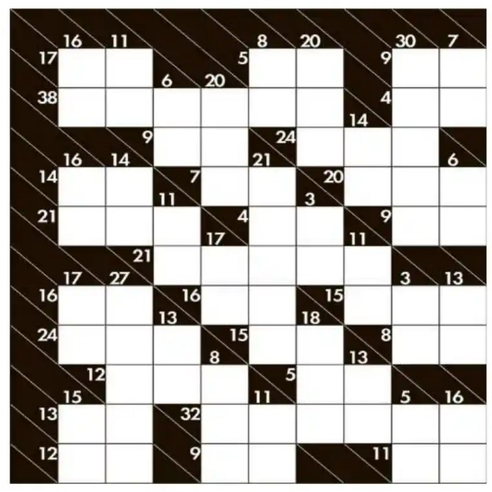
| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | 5 | 7 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 6 |
| 8 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 7 |
| 7 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 6 |
| 1 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 7 | 8 |
| 5 | 7 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 8 | 4 |
| 4 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 6 | 5 |
| 5 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 5 |

SOLUTION TO 3199

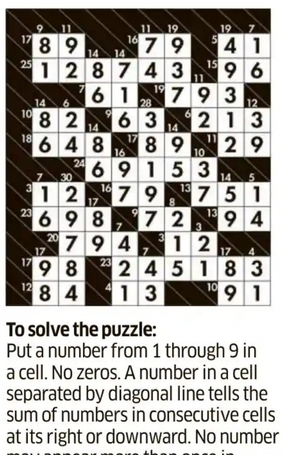
| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 6 | ■ | 4 | 8 | ■ | 2 | ■ |
| 6 | ■ | 1 | ■ | 7 | 2 | 5 | 3 |
| 2 | 8 | 4 | 7 | ■ | 1 | 6 | ■ |
| ■ | 2 | 7 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 4 |
| 8 | 7 | 5 | 6 | ■ | 4 | ■ | 1 |
| 5 | 3 | ■ | 2 | 4 | 8 | 7 | ■ |
| 1 | ■ | 3 | 8 | ■ | 6 | ■ | 2 |
| 4 | 1 | ■ | 5 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 8 |

**To solve the puzzle:** Eliminate numbers by filling in squares so that remaining cells in that row or column do not repeat that number more than once. Filled-in cells cannot be horizontally or vertically adjacent. The un-filled cells must form a single component connected horizontally and vertically.

## KAKURO- 3200



SOLUTION TO 3199



**To solve the puzzle:** Put a number from 1 through 9 in a cell. No zeros. A number in a cell separated by diagonal line tells the sum of numbers in consecutive cells at its right or downward. No number may appear more than once in consecutive cells.

## SU DO KU X - 3729

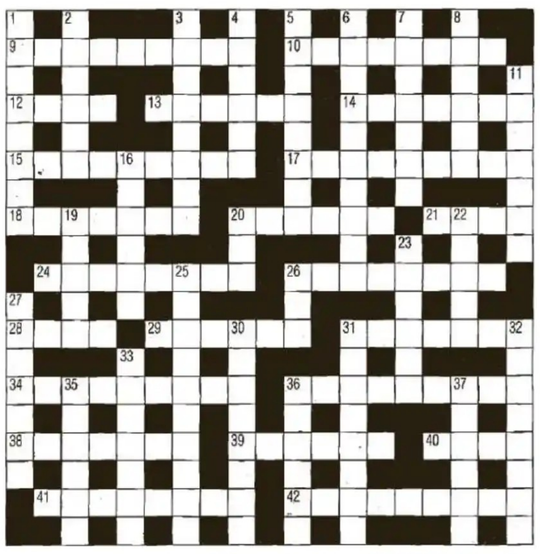
| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | | 4 | | | | | | 6 |
| | ▒ | | | | | 9 | ▒ | |
| 1 | | 9 | | 3 | | 4 | | |
| | | | ▒ | | ▒ | 8 | | |
| | 7 | | | ▒ | 6 | | 1 | |
| | | | ▒ | | 2 | | | |
| | | ▒ | | | | ▒ | | 2 |
| | 3 | | | | | 6 | ▒ | 8 |
| 2 | 9 | | | | | | | 4 |

SOLUTION TO 3728

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 8 | 1 | 9 | 7 | 3 |
| 7 | 9 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 6 |
| 3 | 8 | 6 | 4 | 7 | 9 | 1 | 2 | 5 |
| 8 | 2 | 9 | 1 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 7 |
| 4 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 8 |
| 6 | 5 | 3 | 7 | 9 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 1 |
| 1 | 3 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 6 | 9 |
| 5 | 6 | 4 | 9 | 1 | 7 | 8 | 3 | 2 |
| 9 | 7 | 8 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 4 |

**To solve the puzzle:** The objective is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column, each 3x3 box and each shaded diagonal line contains the same number only once.

## CROSSWORD CHALLENGE 4013



### CRYPTIC

**ACROSS**
9 Bread that's not wrapped? (5,4)
10 Earned, for having arrested (6,2)
12 Said it's part bread (4)
13 Got the snake trapped? That's capital! (6)
14 "Tourist" is one of the fallers (7)
15 Enjoyment the athlete who broke the record had? (5,4)
17 The plant, a weed, will run rampant in a while (9)
18 Cut back not definite? (7)
20 Compensated for having given material assistance (6)
21 You get the point (4)
24 Get ready for attack (3,5)
26 Arrived or, conversely, pulled out (6,2)
28 Again it's too much (4)
29 Feel and be strangely weak (6)
31 Mended the tent the kid had damaged (7)
34 Had been a forger, one didn't let oneself forget (4,1,4)
36 They're unable to hear or see the cars outside (5,4)
38 Asks to name the child (5,2)
39 Unseated from the said seat (6)
40 Duck, chum! It's a stone! (4)
41 Pray tell me, lady (3,5)
42 Unwilling to get an awful clutter outside tidied up (9)

**DOWN**
1 It means you've given your consent and no mistake! (3,5)
2 Miner has no right to dog (6)
3 The wild lion is put in her care (8)
4 Single out the cold water pipe with the hole in it (6)
5 Says one's piece in a high voice? (6,2)
6 A plain no? (4,6)
7 Doesn't let one forget about and is disturbed by (7)
8 For the not very intelligent, it's easy (6)
11 The doctor and the sick man made well (7)
16 The bird flying out is able to (6)
19 In the south of France, an English member of the family (5)
20 Go off hill climbing (3)
22 Visit, late, a place you visit often (5)
23 Through his mistake, die (6)
25 A most individual means of getting a private road (4,3,3)
26 Feel sorry, in a way, for the French (3)
27 Creatures that are party to a terrible crime (7)
30 Whispered "The beard is a disguise" (8)
31 Be fully aware that you are no stranger to (4,4)
32 Does, perhaps, at night appear lonely (8)
33 An extract from "The Corridor" (7)
35 Taking the key, gets out a roll of money (6)
36 The dog, the time after, got upset by the poison (6)
37 Pop back and ring to make a request (6)

**ACROSS**
9 Irritability (3,6)
10 Tough (8)
12 Hood (4)
13 Cake (6)
14 Weed (7)
15 Stole (9)
17 Very likely (9)
18 Gem (7)
20 Bird (6)
21 Banner (4)
24 Pardoned (8)
26 Opening (8)
28 Dance (4)
29 Summary (6)
31 Acrid (7)
34 Aim (9)
36 Pleasant (9)
38 Unfriendly (7)
39 Lasso (6)
40 Move (4)
41 Disclosed (8)
42 Foolish (9)

**DOWN**
1 Follower (8)
2 Scowl (6)
3 Wrenched (8)
4 Ally (6)
5 Fish (8)
6 Penultimate (4,3,3)
7 Economical (7)
8 Squirm (6)
11 Communication (7)
16 Fruit (6)
19 Produce (5)
20 Enclosure (3)
22 Big (5)
23 Attitude (6)
25 Pasta (10)
26 Animal (3)
27 Cargo (7)
30 Finish (8)
31 Belongs (8)
32 Speculate (8)
33 Animate (7)
35 Thrown (6)
36 Over (6)
37 Improved (6)

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| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| O1 | O1 | O1 | S1 | K5 | R1 | F4 | Double Word Score |
| S1 | N1 | N1 | N1 | O1 | L1 | Y4 | 2nd Letter Triple |
| Y4 | L1 | L1 | S1 | A1 | E1 | F4 | |
| E1 | P3 | L1 | R1 | V4 | O1 | O1 | |

RACK 1 | RACK 2 | RACK 3 | RACK 4

PAR SCORE 110-120
by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in the Collins English Dictionary. JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

### YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| P3 | H4 | O1 | N1 | I1 | C3 | | RACK 1 | = 39 |
| P3 | R1 | E1 | S1 | E1 | N1 | T1 | RACK 2 | = 77 |
| R1 | E1 | W4 | I1 | R1 | E1 | D2 | RACK 3 | = 83 |
| F4 | I1 | N1 | I1 | C3 | K5 | Y4 | RACK 4 | = 107 |

PAR SCORE 200-210 JUDD'S TOTAL 306

### SOLUTIONS TO CROSSWORD 12283

**CRYPTIC**
**ACROSS:** 1, Swiss 6, Pinch 9, Capital 10, Relay 11, L-lama 12, Dumas 13, St-rafe-s 15, Pep 17, Ahab 18, Figure 19, Fag-in 20, Croc-us 22, Scar (car-D-s) 24, Yen 25, Me-mph-Is. 26, A-ft-ER 27, Tessa 28, Jaffa 29, Tighter 30, Bl-air 31, Tsars.
**DOWN:** 2, Wr-E-ath 3, S-car-ab 4, Say 5, Minus 6, Pa-lad-in 7, Ills 8, Camber 12, D-E.g.-as 13, Saucy 14, Ramon 15, Punch 16, Pears 18, Finer 19, Fun-fair 21, Re-VE-al 22, Spears 23, Al-m for 25, Meth-s 26, Asti 28, Jet.

**EASY**
**ACROSS:** 1, Chasm 6, Riots 9, Tallies 10, Spray 11, Pleat 12, Cable 13, Beakers 15, Leg 17, Ants 18, Attire 19, Style 20, Innate 22, Thor 24, Nee 25, Bothers 26, Spout 27, Fatal 28, Wound 29, Feather 30, Cedes 31, Tyres.
**DOWN:** 2, Happen 3, Stacks 4, May 5, Pleas 6, Replete 7, Isle 8, Trader 12, Crate 13, Basin 14, Atone 15, Lithe 16, Gears 18, Allot 19, Staples 21, Negate 22, Theory 23, Orange 25, Busts 26, Safe 28, Wet.

# Xi commissions China's most advanced aircraft carrier

## Third carrier comes as China-US naval rivalry grows

BEIJING, PTI

China has commissioned its third aircraft carrier, the Fujian, described as its most advanced warship equipped with electromagnetic catapults, at a ceremony attended by President Xi Jinping, held under strict secrecy.

Although official media reported its commissioning on Friday, a state-run Xinhua report said Xi attended the commissioning and flag-presentation ceremony of the Fujian on Wednesday at Sanya Port in southern China's Hainan Province.

The Fujian is equipped with an Electromagnetic Aircraft Launch System (EMALS), a technology currently used only by the American aircraft carrier USS Gerald R. Ford.

US President Donald Trump recently said he wanted to abandon EMALS technology in favour of steam power, calling the advanced launch system expensive, unreliable, and difficult to maintain, the South China Morning Post reported.

A screen grab from video footage shows China's third aircraft carrier Fujian carrying out sea trials in an unknown location. AFP

**NAVAL AMBITION**

- China's third aircraft carrier, Fujian, is equipped with electromagnetic catapults. The technology is currently used only by USS Gerald R Ford.
- Fujian's operationalisation could extend China's naval presence into the Indian Ocean and Arabian Sea, supported by bases in Djibouti, Gwadar and Hambantota.
- China now has the world's largest fleet with 234 warships, surpassing the US Navy's 219.

While all three Chinese carriers are conventionally powered, reports indicate that China is building a fourth carrier in Dalian, which could be nuclear-powered to enhance endurance, extend global reach, and provide additional power for advanced systems.

China was the last major power to acquire aircraft carriers for its navy. It currently operates two: the Liaoning, a refitted Soviet-era ship commissioned in 2012, and the Shandong, its first indigenously built carrier, operationalised in 2019.

The Fujian's commissioning follows successful catapult-assisted take-off and arrested landing tests involving carrier-based aircraft J-15T, J-35, and KongJing-600. The Fujian, with a displacement of around 80,000 tonnes, is the largest of China's three carriers.

Analysts suggest that with rising tensions with the US, China may expand its carrier fleet to strengthen its presence along key global maritime routes.

During his visit to the Fujian, Xi—who also chairs the Central Military Commission (CMC), the top command of China's armed forces—was briefed on the vessel's combat capabilities and the use of its advanced electromagnetic catapults, according to Xinhua.

Xi, who has been pushing for rapid modernisation of the Chinese military, reportedly instructed the navy to adopt EMALS technology himself.

In addition to attending technical briefings from commanding officers and pilots, Xi toured the control tower and reviewed flight command, take-off, and landing operations.

With the Fujian entering service, the Chinese navy is expected to deploy carrier groups closer to the Taiwan Strait and the disputed South China Sea.

China claims Taiwan as part of its mainland and asserts sovereignty over most of the South China Sea, claims contested by the Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia, Brunei, and Taiwan.

The Fujian's commissioning also signals the possibility of extended Chinese carrier operations in the Indian Ocean and Arabian Sea, where its naval presence includes bases in Djibouti, Gwadar in Pakistan, and the commercial port of Hambantota in Sri Lanka, acquired under a debt swap.

## Russia says it wants US to clarify its nuclear testing plan

**MOSCOW, REUTERS:** Russia said on Friday that it wanted the United States to clarify recent remarks by United States President Donald Trump about the possible resumption of nuclear testing, given that such a step would trigger serious responses from other countries.

Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova made the comments at a news briefing in Moscow.

Trump last week ordered the United States military to immediately restart the process for testing nuclear weapons after a halt of 33 years. But it was not immediately clear whether Trump was referring to nuclear-explosive testing, which would be carried out by the National Nuclear Security Administration, or flight testing of nuclear-capable missiles.

Given the lack of clarity around United States plans, President Vladimir Putin on Wednesday instructed top officials to prepare proposals for Russia to carry out its own potential nuclear test in response to any United States test.

Moscow has not carried out a nuclear test since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991. Russia and the US possess the world's largest nuclear arsenals.

## WORLD AT A GLANCE

A photo released by Ukraine border guards shows US actress Angelina Jolie receiving gifts from soldiers as she leaves the country following her visit to Kherson and Mykolaiv, amid the Russian invasion. AFP

### Singh Swarnjit becomes first Sikh mayor in Connecticut

▸ Indian-origin Democrat businessman Singh Swarnjit has been elected as Mayor of the city of Norwich in Connecticut, becoming the first Sikh mayor in the state's history, PTI reports from New York.

Swarnjit got 3,978 votes (57.25%) while his Republican rival Stacy Gould received 2,828 votes (40.7%). Swarnjit described Norwich as a "city that has embraced his family with open arms." It said that after his family fled the 1984 anti-Sikh riots in India, he "arrived in the US in 2007 seeking the promise of the American Dream and freedom from the threat of violent persecution." Swarnjit is a real estate developer and owns a gas station in Norwich. "As someone who has been welcomed by America, Singh believes deeply that we must give back to our nation. He knows that our freedoms must continue to be protected from violent extremism," his profile says. Swarnjit is among the several candidates of Indian-origin who have registered wins in the November 4 elections, the most prominent being New York City Mayor-elect Zohran Mamdani, Virginia Lt Governor-elect Ghazala Hashmi, Ohio Mayor-elect Aftab Pureval and former Hoboken Mayor Ravi Bhalla, who has been elected to the New Jersey State Assembly.

### Talks with Taliban collapsed: Pak

▸ Pakistan's Defence Minister has said that peace talks with Afghanistan held in Istanbul to prevent renewed border clashes have collapsed, but the existing ceasefire will remain in place as long as there are no attacks from Afghan soil, Reuters reports from Karachi.

Speaking to GEO News, the minister said, "The ceasefire with Afghanistan holds as long as there is no attack from Afghan soil." The third round of peace talks between Pakistan and the Afghan Taliban regime took place in Istanbul, with Turkiye and Qatar acting as mediators. The negotiations aimed to address the issue of cross-border terrorism and to avoid further escalation between the two sides following recent border skirmishes.

Devotees take part in a religious procession at the Ulun Danu Beratan Hindu Temple in the Beratan lake near Bedugul in Bali, Indonesia, on Friday. AFP

### UN lifts sanctions on Syria's prez

▸ The UN Security Council has voted on a US-backed resolution to remove Syrian President Ahmed al-Sharaa from the 1267 ISIL and Al-Qaeda sanctions list, a move described by Council members as a "strong political signal" of recognising a "new era" in the country, PTI reports.

The 15-nation Council voted on the resolution that decided to "delist" al-Sharaa and Interior Minister Anas Hasan Khattab from the ISIL and Al-Qaida Sanctions List. The resolution, prepared by the US, was adopted with 14 votes in favour and a sole abstention by veto-wielding permanent member China. The Syrian leader was first designated by the Council's 1267 Sanctions Committee in July 2013.

### Indian student's body recovered

▸ After a search spanning several days, the body of Ajit Chaudhary, a 22-year-old Indian student from Rajasthan's Alwar district, has been recovered from a dam near White River in Russia's Ufa city, PTI reports from Jaipur.

Ajit, a resident of Kafanwada village in Alwar and was pursuing MBBS course at Bashkir State Medical University in Ufa, had been missing since October 19, when he left his hostel and did not return. A day later, his clothes were found near the riverbank, prompting an extensive search operation.

Family members were informed about the recovery of his body on Thursday afternoon. Ajit's friends and fellow students in Russia confirmed his identity.

# Tesla shareholders clear Musk's $1 trillion pay plan

## Tesla's future hinges on Musk's ambitious AI and robotics vision

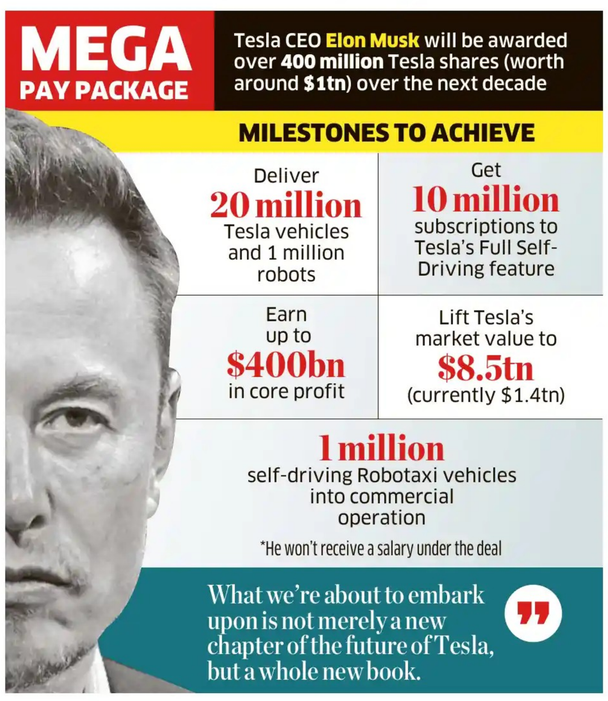
SAN FRANCISCO, REUTERS

Tesla CEO Elon Musk won shareholder approval on Thursday for the largest corporate pay package in history as investors endorsed his vision of morphing the EV maker into an AI and robotics juggernaut.

The proposal was approved with over 75% support, and Musk bounded to the stage of the company's annual meeting at its factory in Austin, accompanied by dancing robots.

Musk, already the world's richest person, could get as much as $1 trillion in stock over the next decade, although required payments would take the value down to $878 billion. The vote is crucial for Tesla's future and its valuation, which hangs on Musk's vision of making vehicles that drive themselves, creating a robotaxi network across the US and selling humanoid robots, even though his far-right political rhetoric has hurt the Tesla brand this year.

"What we are about to embark upon is not merely a new chapter of the future of Tesla, but a whole new book," Musk told a cheering group of shareholders. Shareholders also re-elected three directors on Tesla's board and voted in favor of holding annual elections for all board members and a replacement pay plan for Musk's services because a legal challenge has held up a previous package.


MEGA PAY PACKAGE
Tesla CEO Elon Musk will be awarded over 400 million Tesla shares (worth around $1tn) over the next decade
MILESTONES TO ACHIEVE
Deliver 20 million Tesla vehicles and 1 million robots
Get 10 million subscriptions to Tesla's Full Self-Driving feature
Earn up to $400bn in core profit
Lift Tesla's market value to $8.5tn (currently $1.4tn)
1 million self-driving Robotaxi vehicles into commercial operation
*He won't receive a salary under the deal
What we're about to embark upon is not merely a new chapter of the future of Tesla, but a whole new book.

"Other shareholder meetings are like snoozefests, but ours are bangers," Musk said. "I mean, look at this. This is sick."

Shareholders voted in favor of Tesla investing in Musk's AI startup, xAI, though there were many abstentions. Although conflict-of-interest concerns have arisen over Tesla's possible investment in xAI, the move is seen as widely benefiting both companies.

A win for Musk was widely expected as the billionaire was allowed to exercise the full voting rights of his roughly 15% stake after the automaker moved to Texas from Delaware. Some major investors had opposed the plan.

Tesla's board had said Musk could quit if the pay package was not approved.

## Trump says he could travel to India next year

**NEW YORK/WASHINGTON, PTI:** US President Donald Trump said he could travel to India next year, emphasising that Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi "wants" him to visit while calling him a "great man" and a friend.

"He's (PM Modi) a friend of mine, and we speak... He wants me to go there. We'll figure that out. I'll go. I will have a great trip there with Prime Minister Modi, he's a great man. And I'll be going," Trump said at the Oval Office on Thursday.

When asked if he is planning to go to India next year, Trump said, "It could be, yeah."

India will host leaders from Australia, Japan, and the United States for the Quad summit in New Delhi after the 2024 summit was held in Wilmington, Delaware. However, the dates for the summit in India are yet to be announced.

Meanwhile, President Trump once again claimed that India has stopped buying from Russia. "It's great, going good. He (PM Modi) stopped... Largely he stopped buying oil from Russia," Trump said in response to a question on how talks with Modi and trade discussions with India are progressing.

Trump imposed 25% reciprocal tariffs on India and an additional 25% levies for Delhi's purchases of Russian oil, bringing the total duties imposed on India to 50%.

# Tehran may face evacuation due to drought: Prez

TEHRAN, AFP

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian warned in a speech broadcast on Friday that the capital Tehran may need evacuating because of water shortages if it doesn't rain before the end of the year.

"If it doesn't rain, we'll have to start rationing water in Tehran between late November and early December", Pezeshkian said in a speech broadcast on state TV.

"Even if we do ration it and it still doesn't rain by then, we'll run out of water, we'll have to evacuate Tehran."

It was not immediately clear how the capital would be evacuated.

Iran as a whole has been affected by dwindling rainfall, but the sprawling megacity of more than 10 million people is particularly vulnerable.

On Sunday, the director of the regional water company, Behzad Parsa, warned in state media that there was just two weeks' worth of water left in the main reservoir serving Tehran.

Meanwhile, Tasnim News Agency reported that the country's precipitation level this year had reached just 152 millimetres, a 40% decline compared to the 57-year average. The agency quoted Mohammad Reza Kavianpour, head of the Water Research Institute, as saying that several provinces "experienced a 50 to 80% decline in precipitation." He added that storage in the capital's dams in the new water year, which began in late September, was around 250 million cubic metres, roughly half of the 490 million cubic metres recorded in the 2023-24 water year.

"We must prepare ourselves for a critical situation," he said, according to Tasnim.

Water levels in the reservoirs supplying the capital have fallen to their lowest in decades, according to Mohsen Ardakani, director general of the provincial water company covering Tehran.

"In the last six months, the population has saved 10% of its water consumption," Ardakani said on state TV on Wednesday.

"If this figure reaches 20%, we will be able to ensure a stable water situation for the next one to two months when the rains start again," he added. Winter months in Tehran usually bring rainfall and often snow.

A sharp decline in rainfall and reduced dam inflow have deepened the crisis, as Iran faces one of its worst droughts in decades.

As a conservation measure, water supplies have reportedly been cut off in several neighbourhoods of Tehran in recent months, while outages were frequent throughout the summer.

## Multiple blasts in Indonesia mosque injure 55

**JAKARTA (INDONESIA), AP/PTI:** Multiple explosions shook a mosque at a high school during Friday prayers in Jakarta, Indonesia's capital, injuring at least 55 people, mostly students. Police tried to dissuade speculation that the blasts were a terror attack and said they were investigating.

Witnesses told local television stations that they heard at least two loud blasts around midday, from inside and outside the mosque, just as the sermon had started at the mosque at SMA 27, a state high school within a navy compound in Jakarta's northern Kelapa Gading neighbourhood. Students and others ran out in panic as grey smoke filled the mosque.

Most of the victims suffered minor to severe injuries from glass shards and burns. The cause of the explosions was not immediately known, but they came from near the mosque's loudspeaker, according to Jakarta Police Chief Asep Edi Suheri.

Videos circulating on social media showed dozens of students in school uniform running in panic across the school's basketball court, some covering their ears with their hands, apparently to protect themselves from the loud blasts. Some of the injured were carried on stretchers to waiting cars.

Suheri, the police chief, said an anti-bomb squad that was deployed at the scene found toy rifles and a toy gun near the mosque.

"Police are still investigating the scene to determine the cause," he said and urged against speculation that the incident was an attack before the police investigation is completed.

"Let the authorities work first," Suheri said.

# US govt shutdown grounds hundreds of flights

WASHINGTON, AP/PTI

Hundreds of flight cancellations spread across the US on Friday as airlines began complying with the Federal Aviation Administration's unprecedented order to reduce service nationwide because of the government shutdown.

While the FAA order left some passengers scrambling to figure out backup plans, most were relieved to find their planes still on schedule as airlines slowly phase in reductions at the nation's busiest airports.

The 40 airports selected for the slowdown by the FAA span more than two dozen states and include hubs such as Atlanta, Dallas, Denver, Los Angeles and Charlotte, North Carolina, according to the order.

More than 800 flights were called off nationwide — four times the number cancelled Thursday, according to FlightAware, a website that tracks flight disruptions. Not all were due to the FAA order.

An airplane takes off from New York's Laguardia Airport after the FAA ordered flight cuts at 40 major airports,on Friday. REUTERS

Airports in Chicago, Atlanta, Denver, Dallas and Phoenix led the way with the most disruptions, FlightAware said.

While many travellers changed their itineraries without too much inconvenience, others were less fortunate.

Karen Soika from Greenwich, Connecticut, found out Friday morning her flight out of Newark, New Jersey, was rebooked for an hour earlier. But she later learned her plane was actually leaving from New York's John F Kennedy Airport, instead, at least an hour away.

"I'm a surgeon, I'm used to chaos," she said. She unsuccessfully tried to book a rental car to get to Utah for a weekend trip before settling on an option that seemed straight out of Hollywood. "I'm going to U-Haul and I'm going to drive a truck cross country to get back to Utah," said Soika, who is advising on medical scenes there for a spinoff of the TV series "Yellowstone."

Both United and American airlines said Friday they were able to quickly rebook most affected travellers. United spokesperson Josh Freed said more than half were scheduled to reach their destinations.

## Indian national captured by RSF militia in Sudan

**NEW DELHI, PTI:** An Indian national has been captured by the anti-government Rapid Support Forces (RSF) militia in Sudan and India is in touch with authorities and international organisations in that country to secure his release.

Adarsh Behera, a 36-year-old resident of Odisha, was taken away by RSF fighters when the militia captured the city of El Fasher last month. "One Indian national is in the custody of the RSF. As you know, there is fighting going on in the El-Fasher region," External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said.

"We are in contact with the Sudan government and international organisations so that the Indian national can be safely freed and we can ensure his security," he said.

Actress Jamie Lee Curtis accepts the Jane Fonda Humanitarian Award during the Women In Film Honors 2025 in in Beverly Hills, California, on Thursday. REUTERS

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**JAYANAGAR 4TH** T_Block, Commercial Site 45x90, East, 80ft. Road, 48,000/- Sft. Suraj Realtors- 9845232711

### J P Nagar

**COMMERCIAL BDA-SITE-SALE** JPNagar 8th Phase 2nd,Block, 40x60,North Facing,16500/- Anjanapura 8th,Block 50x80,North Facing 16000/- 9845600007

### Sites

### Anjanapura

**ANJANAPURA 10TH** Block BDA Property 40x60, Prime Location, West Facing Site 11,500/- Contact- 9845000299/ 9980808155

**ANJANAPURA COMMERCIAL** Flat for Sale 50x80 North Facing, Genuine Buyers Call: 9880448478/ 9972338060.

**BDA RESIDENTIAL** and Commercial Anjanapura BDA, Narayananagara, BCMC, Judicial, Vakil Garden, Kanakapura Road 30x40, 40x60, 50x80. 9916592400

**ANJANAPURA** BDA Site For Sale, 1ST Block 20x30, W/F Price 65 Lakhs Negotioble 9740150364/8884707773

### Banashankari

**BSK 6th Stage** 4th 'T' Block, opp Park 40 feet Road, East Facing 5 min. walk from Silk Institute Metro Station 12500/- sft. slightly negotiable. **M : 9845286583**

**BANASHANKARI 6TH** Stage 10th Block 40x60 West Facing. And 30x40 West Facing. More Details Call: 9148914809, 9993959099.

**BDA RESIDENTIAL** and Prime Commercial Banashankari 6th Stage, Banashankari 5th Stage, Uttarahalli, Rajarajeshwarinagara, 30x40, 40x60, 50x80. 9916592400

**BDA SITE for Sale at Banashankari 6th Stage 2nd Block 30x40 West Facing Near 80 Feet Road Contact: 8123715607**

**BANASHANKARI 6TH** Stage BDA Site for Sale 30x40, 40x60 4th & 11th Block. 6364643930/ 9972720488.

### Basaweshwaranagar

**40×60 SOUTH** Basveshwarnagar SMV Layout East Rajajinagar with Building Commercial/ Residential Site Immediate Sale: 8660075308.

### Chandapura

**KHB SITE** SALE at Surya Nagar 2nd Phase 30x40, 20x30, Near Anekal Road, Chandrapura 9066865343

### Gnanabharathi

**"30X40 BDA** East_Face`Site for sale`at Gnanabharathi Layout 3rd-Block just`10`minutes drive`to R.V.COLLEGE_METRO and Mysore Road. 9880031654"

### Hebbal

**HEBBAL 30X35** House Sale Ground 1 BHK Two Carparking 1st 2 BHK 2nd 2 BHK 9845623970/ 9739400838

### Jigani

**KHB Sites Surya City Near Jigani**

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### Kempegowda Layout

**SITE FOR SALE 40x60 East Facing BDA 40 Feet Road**

Very Good Location Rs 9250/- Negotiable Nada Prabhu Kempe Gowda Layout K Sector 1st Block **Contact: 9916826976**

**NADAPRABHU KEMPEGOWDA** LAYOUT BDA SITES SELLING/ BUYING 20x30, 30x40, 40x60, 50x80. Genuine Buyers Call: 9632146784, 9731162167.

### Multiple Locations

**SELLING/ BUYING** HOUSES, SITES:30x40_40x60 FLATS, COMMERCIAL, Jayanagar, JP.Nagar BASAVANAGUDI Kanakapura Road, BANASHANKARI, BTM_HSR. CALL 7760019494

### Rajajinagar

**SITE FOR** Sale Commercial Property Rajajinagar 2nd block 25x45, North Broker Excuse Contact: 7899570235/ 8197768459

### R T Nagar

**RT.NAGAR MAIN** Road 5400 sft. Commercial Property for Sale. East Face, Brokers Excuse. Call: 9845345964.

### Vishweshwariah Layout

**BDA SITE** SALE VISHWESHWARAIAH LAYOUT 1ST BLOCK 30X40 WEST 12500 NEGOTIABLE, 40X60 WEST 11500 NEGOTIABLE. CONTACT: 8892901567

**30X40 VISHVESHWARAIAH** Layout BDA Near Bus Stand Rs. 8750 & 60X35 Site Sale North West Corner 80Ft Road 6th Block Commercial Opposite BDA Complex: 8310003509

**"40X60 WEST_FACING** BDA_site for sale`at Vishveshwaraiah 1st_Block just_10_minutes drive to METRO. 9880031654"

**BUYING/ SELLING** 20x30, 30x40, 40x60, 50x80 BDA Sites VISHVESHWARAIAH LAYOUT, KEMPEGOWDA LAYOUT, Contact: 9035470616

**AVAILABLE BDA** Site Vishweshwaraih Layout 6th Block 20×30 SF Near Oxford College Good Location: 9743381719

***BUYING/SELLING* 20X30** 30x40,40x60,50X80 BDA SITES VISHWESHWARAIAH KEMPEGOWDA LAYOUT. Contact:SREENIDHI PROPERTY JUNCTION. 9742681666

**30X40 VISHVESHWARAIAH** Layout 5th Block & 30x40 Site Sale 1st Block Allotted Site 12500SQFT: 8310003509

**40X60 6TH** Block Vishweshwaraiah Layout North Facing Price 13500/- Good Location Geniune Buyer's Call: 9980409820

### Yelahanka

**2400 SQFT** 50ft Road Width Semi Commercial Corner Site For Sale Yelahanka 11000/- Psqft: 7996166636

### Mysore

**KIADB AUCTION** SITE FOR SALE, 17539 SQFT E/Face RING ROAD, OPPOSITE SHESHADRIPURAM COLLEGE, HEBBAL, MYSORE. CALL: 9845981490

### Tumkur

**TUDA 70X103** WF SITE FOR SALE Rs.4600_SQFT. NEAR SAPTHAGIRI CIRCLE, TUMAKURU. CALL: 9845193978/ 9964598774.

### House

### Mallathalli

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### Begur

**5-BHK HOUSE,** 40x60 Noble Residency, Near Nandi Woods Apartment, Yelanahalli, Begur Hobli, 3.5 Cr, 9845206422

### Tumkur

**30X40 NEW** Building TUDA Near Sheshadripuram College, 2 BHK, 1 BHK 1st Floor, and 2 Shops for SALE, 1.30 Cr. 9448367859

### Mysore

**LAND OWNER** wants to build Highend Luxury SENIOR LIVING HOMES on 2 Acres of converted land on Bangalore- Mysore Expressway near Mysore. Contact for J V owner 9741019028

### Industrial & Factory

### Multiple Locations

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### Farm House/ Land/ Resorts

### Chitradurga

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### General

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**9113209192**

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### Flat

### Chandra Layout

**PENTHOUSE FLAT** for Sale. 3 Bedroom.1600sft Super Built-up. 50Mtr from Attiguppe MetroStation, Chandra layout, Vijaynagar. 1.7Cr Negotiable. 9844060483

### Devanahalli

**2 BHK** FOR SALE 999 Sq.ft. 14th floor PRESTIGE apartment Location: Bangaluru Ph- 9591330517 7899401401

### Kanakapura Road

**3BHK APARTMENT** for`Sale 40x60, 2400.Sqft. Individual Floor near Vajarahalli and Raghuvanahalli Metro Station 1`KM. Call 9740148870 9341050991.

### Rajarajeshwari Nagar

**3BHK FLAT** NE Corner, East Furnished, 2 Carpark, 2nd Floor, Behind Nimishamba, Ideal Homes. 9902288900.

## REAL ESTATE BUYING

### House

### Basavanagudi

**WANTED IN** BANGALORE South OLD 3/4 BHK 2000Sqft Apartment or HOUSE Near METRO Maximum 3 Crores: 9942081702

### Sites

### Anjanapura

**BDA-SITES WANTED** @ Banashankari 6th Stage, Visveshwaraiah Layout, Anjanapura, Kempegowda Layout 30x40,40x60, 50x80 Rajesh: 9945610779

### Vishweshwariah Layout

***BUYING/ SELLING*** 20x30,30x40,40x60 50x80 BDA sites at VISHVESHWARAIAH LAYOUT, BSK 6th-stage. Contact: 9844533371/ 9341733480

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### House

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## PERSONAL

### Change of Name

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **Rosamma Varghese** W/o Chandrasekharan Nair,, residing at # 704, 6th Main, 12th Cross, Muthyalanagar, Bengaluru - 560054, have changed my name from **Rosamma Chandrashekaran Nair Varghese** to **ROSAMMA VARGHESE** vide affidavit dated 04.11.2025 before notary L.B. Anasuyamma, Bengaluru.

**I, SRITESHRAJ** Kolar Sreenath, aged about 25 Years, S/o A R Sreenath and Roopa Sreenath, residing at Gayatri Nilaya, Big Bazar, Kolar Town and District 563101 Have changed my name to Sritesh Raj A S and father's name A R Srinath & Mother's name as A S Roopa vide affidavit dated 05.11.2025 Before Notary Venkataswamy Kolar

**CHANGE OF NAME**

We **Sabzar Ahmad Rangraze** and **Sumira Sabzar,** parents of **Hibah Rangraze** (OLD NAME), Residing at Rangraze Residency 2nd G Cross, 22nd Main, J.P Nagar 5th Phase, Bengaluru-78 Karnataka, have changed our minor daughter's Name to **AAIRA FATIMA (NEW NAME)** Vide Affidavit dated 31.10.2025, Sworn Before Notary K.V. MANI, Bengaluru.

**I, GOUTHAMIBYRAIAH** residing at No. 249/S, (3671) 2nd cross, Girinagar BSK 3rd stage Bangalore-85 have changed my name from GOUTHAMIBYRAIAH to GOUTHAMIBYRAIAH SANUSVANTH vide affidavit dated 07/11/25 before notary T. Venkate Gowda Bangalore.

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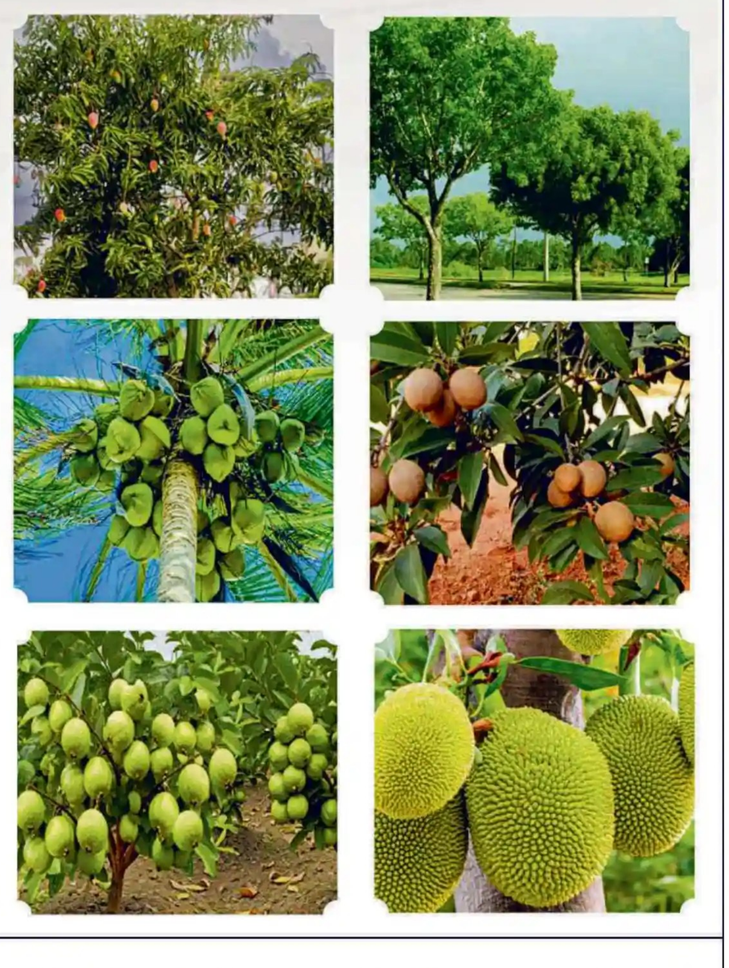

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# No intention to micromanage banks: RBI

## Regulated entities should be allowed to take decisions

GYANENDRA KESHRI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Close on the heels of announcing a series of measures to boost lending, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Sanjay Malhotra on Friday said the central bank has no intention to micromanage banks.

"No regulator can, or should, substitute for boardroom judgment, especially in a diverse country such as ours. Each case, each loan, each deposit, each transaction is different, with varying risks and opportunities," Malhotra said at an event organised by State Bank of India (SBI) in Mumbai.

"We need to allow the regulated entities to take decisions based on merits of each case, rather than prescribing a one size fits all rule. This will enable regulated entities to experiment and innovate, learn and improve," he added.

Malhotra's comments come nearly a month after the central bank announced a host of measures to boost lending. The measures announced on October 1 include allowing banks to finance acquisitions and increasing limits on loans for buying shares at IPOs.

Referring to the RBI's decision of removal of curbs on acquisition financing, Malhotra said the move would benefit the real economy.

"The proposed guardrails like limiting bank funding to 70% of deal value, limits on debt to equity ratio, aggregate exposure limits relative to Tier-1 capital, and eligibility criteria will contain concentration and credit risks, thereby ensuring safety while allowing banks and their stakeholders to reap benefits of additional business," he said.

RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra addresses SBI Banking Conclave, in Mumbai, on Friday. PTI PHOTO

The Governor emphasised that financial stability remains the top priority of the central bank.

"For us in RBI, financial stability remains the north star, for short-term growth achieved at the cost of financial stability can have bigger consequences for long-term growth. Research shows that financial instability may not only more than offset the gains of higher short term growth, but also make recovery more distressful and longer," he said.

He said the RBI has kept the trade-offs between stability and efficiency in mind while formulating regulations. "The recent regulatory proposals strive to maintain this balance - the balance between the drive to innovate and grow and the duty to protect," he said.

The Governor claimed that the Indian banks today are far more mature than they were a decade ago.

To put this in perspective, credit and deposits have expanded to almost 3 times. Gross non-performing assets have come down to 2.3% as of March 2025 from a high of 11.2% in March 2018, while net non-performing assets fell to 0.5% from 5.96% during this period.

## Rate of digital frauds rising since July: RBI DG

**MUMBAI, PTI:** Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Deputy Governor T Rabi Sankar on Friday said that the incidence of digital frauds has been rising since July this year.

Speaking at a SBI event here, Sankar said that the frauds were going down till July and the Reserve Bank is checking reasons for the increase since then.

"If you look at frauds per number of transactions, we would see that compared to last year, from the beginning of the year, that incidence (of frauds) kept on reducing substantially until about July when it again started rising up," he said.

Without sharing the degree of the increase, Sankar said the increase can either be cyclical or seasonal.

He said that the digital infrastructure is being deployed by the regulator like the mule hunter which is designed to track down conduit accounts to flush out money received through frauds.

As per the annual report for FY25, there was a decrease in frauds in FY25 to 23,953 from over 36,000 in the preceding financial year.

Frauds occurred predominantly in the category of digital payments including card and internet in terms of number. Private sector banks account for nearly 60% of the fraud cases by numbers, while PSBs' share by value is over 71% as of end-FY25, it said.

Sankar said that in context of payments, it would be "reasonable to assume" that banks "did not foresee" the UPI potential due to some structural aspects, while the more nimble fintechs could pull off the same. He suggested banks to focus on modernising the core infrastructure so as to compete with the fintech ecosystem.

## IN BRIEF

### Forex reserves drop to $689.73 bn

**MUMBAI, PTI:** India's forex reserves dropped $5.623 billion to $689.733 billion for the week ended October 31, the Reserve Bank of India said on Friday.

The overall reserves had declined by $6.925 billion to $695.355 billion. For the week ended October 31, foreign currency assets, a major component of the reserves, decreased by $1.957 billion to $564.591 billion, the data released on Friday showed.

Expressed in dollar terms, the foreign currency assets include the effect of appreciation or depreciation of non-US units, like the euro, pound and yen held in the foreign exchange reserves.

The value of the gold reserves declined by $3.81 billion to $101.726 billion during the week. The Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) were down by $19 million to $18.644 billion.

### Stock markets decline for 3rd day

**MUMBAI, PTI:** Falling for the third straight day, benchmark index Sensex declined by nearly 95 points while Nifty slipped below 25,500 on Friday as relentless foreign fund outflows and weak trends in global markets hit investors' sentiment.

The 30-share BSE Sensex declined 94.73 points, or 0.11%, to settle at 83,216.28. During the day, it tanked 640.06 points, or 0.76%, to 82,670.95.

The 50-share NSE Nifty dipped 17.40 points, or 0.07%, to 25,492.30.

Among Sensex firms, Bharti Airtel tumbled 4.46 per cent after Singtel said it has sold about 0.8 per cent stake in the firm for Rs 10,353 crore (SGD 1.5 billion).

Tech Mahindra, Trent, Reliance Industries, HCL Tech, Hindustan Unilever, and ITC were also among the laggards.

### Groww IPO subscribed 17.60 times

**NEW DELHI, PTI:** The initial public offer of Billionbrains Garage Ventures, the parent company of stock broking firm Groww, received 17.60 times subscription on the final day of the share sale on Friday.

The company's Rs 6,632 crore IPO received bids for 6,41,86,96,200 shares against 36,47,76,528 shares on offer, according to details available with the NSE.

The qualified institutional buyers (QIBs) portion fetched 22.02 times subscription. The category for non-institutional investors received 14.20 times subscription, and that of retail individual investors (RIIs) got subscribed 9.43 times.

Billionbrains Garage Ventures garnered a little over Rs 2,984 crore from anchor investors. The firm has fixed a price band of Rs 95-100 per share for its IPO, targeting a valuation of over Rs 61,700 crore.

### Infosys share buyback on Nov 14

**BENGALURU, DHNS:** The country's second-largest IT services firm, Infosys, has announced November 14, 2025, as the record date for its Rs 18,000 crore share buyback.

"Pursuant to Regulation 42 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, Regulation 9(i) of SEBI (Buy-Back of Securities) Regulations, 2018, the Company has fixed Friday, November 14, 2025, as the Record Date for the purpose of determining the entitlement and the names of equity shareholders who are eligible to participate in the buyback," the company said in a BSE filing.

Earlier in September, the Board approved a proposal to buyback equity shares for an amount of Rs 18,000 crore at a price of Rs 1,800 per equity share, payable in cash.

## Growth to be north of 6.8% in FY26: CEA

NEW DELHI, PTI

Chief Economic Advisor (CEA) V Anantha Nageswaran on Friday exuded confidence that economic growth would be upwards of 6.8% in the current financial year driven by consumption boost provided by GST rate cut and income tax relief.

V Anantha Nageswaran

The Economic Survey tabled in parliament in January had projected real economic growth of 6.3-6.8% for FY26.

"Comfortable looking at a number north of 6.8% now. My original range was 6.3 to 6.8% (projected in Economic Survey). Back in August, we were all concerned about whether we would even go towards the lower end of the 6-7 range.

"Now I think there is a lot of comfort in saying that it would be definitely north of 6.5 and I am more comfortable saying even north of 6.8 but whether I will put a 7 handle in front of it, I will wait for the second quarter numbers to come out before I move even a notch higher," Nageswaran said at CNBC-TV18's Global Leadership Summit 2025.

India recorded a 7.8% GDP growth in the first quarter of the ongoing fiscal year mainly driven by a good showing by the farm sector, and also helped by services like trade, hotel, financial and real estate.

The previous highest pace of growth in the country's GDP was recorded at 8.4% during January-March 2024, as per the data. India remains the fastest-growing major economy, as China's GDP growth in the April-June period was 5.2%.

Nageswaran further said the pace of growth would get a boost, if the bilateral trade deal between the US and India is concluded.

On the trade agreement with the US, he said, "hopefully done soon" but did not give a specific timeframe.

## GST cut push auto sales to record high

### Two-wheeler sales jump by 52%; 5.57 lakh cars sold in Oct

GYANENDRA KESHRI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Retail sales of vehicles surged by 40.5% year-on-year to hit a record monthly number of 40.23 lakh in October led by strong demand boosted by reduction in GST rates, industry data showed on Friday.

A record 31.49 lakh two-wheelers were sold during the month of October, which is 51.76% higher when compared with the same month last year. Passenger vehicle sales soared by 11.35% to 5.57 lakh units during the month under review, as per data released by the Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA).

"After an almost quiet September for the first 21 days due to the GST 2.0 transition, October witnessed a swift rebound — almost like a hurdle race where pent-up demand passed the baton to festive sentiment and tax-cut excitement, propelling sales to historic levels," said FADA President C S Vigneshwar.

The GST Council at its meeting held on September 3 decided to significantly lower indirect taxes on a wide range of goods, including vehicles and auto parts. GST on small cars and motorcycles has been reduced to 18% from the earlier 28%. While the decision was announced on September 3 it came into effect from September 22. The sales of vehicles and other goods picked up after September 22.

"The introduction of GST 2.0 proved transformational — lowering small-car GST rates made vehicle ownership more attainable, especially for the cost-sensitive first time buyer. This affordability boost, timed perfectly with the festive season, turned sentiment into action," Vigneshwar said.

Near 52% surge in sales of two-wheelers was supported by rural demand, GST reductions, and the festive rush. "Dealers reported stronger footfalls and better sentiment leading to extremely high conversion," he said.

Favourable monsoon boosted rural demands. Rural sales grew over three times faster than urban.

## India's AI adoption growing at record pace: OpenAI's Oliver Jay

**NEW DELHI, PTI:** India is witnessing unprecedented growth in AI adoption, with momentum having tripled year over year, OpenAI's Oliver Jay said on Friday.

Jay, Managing Director for International Strategy at OpenAI, said the momentum of AI adoption in India is driven by a young population eager to use frontier AI technologies.

"The momentum we see in India is incredible. We're seeing tremendous growth. The growth in India we've seen has tripled year over year. And so we're seeing a lot of that growth.

"When we think about India, we fundamentally believe that if you build for India, you can build for the world. India is really leading the adoption of the next generation. When you think about the population mix between 18 and 24 years old, that is a booming sector in India," Jay said, speaking at *CNBC-TV18*'s Global Leadership Summit 2025.

He highlighted how India's developers and businesses are actively engaged in deploying AI, which has also inspired features like the study mode in ChatGPT, tailored based on Indian student usage. Jay noted OpenAI's decision to make ChatGPT Go free in India to enhance accessibility and affordability.

Jay lauded India's engineering talent, stressing the importance of the market not only for India but for the global AI ecosystem. Jay expressed optimism about AI's transformative potential across sectors in India and the prospects for future collaboration with Indian enterprises and policymakers.

"My takeaway from being in India for the last couple of days is the talent...The engineering talent is unparalleled... India certainly has tremendous talent," he said.

## Swiggy gets board nod to raise up to Rs 10,000 cr via QIP

**BENGALURU, DHNS:** Food and grocery delivery platform Swiggy's board has approved the company's proposal to raise funds up to Rs 10,000 crore in one or more tranches through the Qualified Institutional Placement (QIP) route or any other permitted modes.

"Board of Directors of the Swiggy Limited has inter-alia, considered and approved the raising of funds by way of public or private offerings including, through one or more tranches, by way of qualified institutions placement or any other permitted modes under applicable laws of equity shares or through any other permissible mode to the eligible investors as may be permitted," it said in a BSE filing.

The company in Q2 reported a net loss of Rs 1,092 crore.

**GREATER BENGALURU AUTHORITY**
Office of the Chief Health Officer (P.H), GBA, Annex Building-3, Head Office, N.R.Square, Bengaluru-560002

No: MSU/PR/10/2025-26 Date: 07.11.2025

**NOTIFICATION**

A notification was published on 25.07.2025 pertaining to fill the vacant posts of Medical, Paramedical and Support Staff coming under Metropolitan Surveillance Unit for a period of 07 months on full contract basis and walk-in process was conducted on 05.08.2025. The provisional selection list of candidates selected on the basis of merit cum roster as per the said notification has been released in press notification on 03.10.2025. Accordingly, as no objections were filed, the final selection list has been published on the Greater Bengaluru Authority website **(https://bbmp.gov.in)**.

**Sd/-, Chief Health Officer (P.H)**
**Greater Bengaluru Authority**

**Karnataka Residential Educational Institutions Society**
**(An Organisation of Govt. of Karnataka)**
**No. 8, MSB-1, 6th & 7th Floor, Cunningham Road, Bengaluru - 560 052**

No:KREIS/INFR/OTH/115/2025-ADMN/E-220405 Date:07.11.2025

**TENDER NOTIFICATION** (Through E-Tendering Only)

Short term Re-Tenders have been invited on 06.11.2025 for Supply of Two Tier Cots for Belgavi, Kalburgi & Mysore Divisions Residential Schools functioning under the Karnataka Residential Educational Institutions Society across Karnataka. Through e-Portal vide Indent No: KREIS/2025-26/IND0073/CALL-2, KREIS/2025-26/IND0074/CALL-2 and KREIS/2025-26/IND0075/CALL-2 and the last date for receipt of tenders is 27.11.2025. The details may be viewed in the **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**. website.

**Sd/-**
**Joint Director(Admin)**
**and Tender Inviting Authority**
**KREIS, Bengaluru.**

DIPR/CP/3658/CCL/2025-26

**KARNATAKA STATE AKKAMAHADEVI WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY, VIJAYAPUR**
**Registrar Office, Vijayapur - 586108.**
**Phone:08352-229051, Website; www.kswu.ac.in**

No:KSAWUV/ACA-03/Ph.D/2025-26/1989 Date: 05.11.2025

**Ph.D ADMISSION NOTIFICATION**

The Karnataka State Akkamahadevi Women University Vijayapura has invited applications for admission to the Ph.D Programme in the following subjects from the eligible Women candidates for the academic year 2025-26.

**Subjects:** Kannada, English, Hindi, Economics, Sociology, Women Studies, Social Work, Journalism And Mass Communication, Library & Information Science, Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Physics, Bioinformatics, Food Processing And Nutrition, Electronics, Computer Science, Education, Management And Physical Education & Sports Sciences.

For detailed information please visit website: www.kswu.ac.in

**Sd/- Registrar, Karnataka State**
**Akkamahadevi women's University, Vijayapur**

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/445/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಹಿಎ/2025–26

## Winter specials for warm weekends!

Freedom Healthy Cooking Oils presents cuisines of karnataka Season 4

The cold days are here and what better way to warm up than with some delicacies. We present two recipes from chefs Oggarane Dabbi Murali and Suchitra to help you do just that.

Chefs Suchithra and Murali

### Bachelor Quick Mutton Fry

**What you need:**

**For Mutton:**
- 500 gm mutton
- ½ tsp turmeric powder
- 1 tbsp each of chilli and coriander powders
- 1 tsp of salt
- 1½ cups of water

**For Masala:**
- 2 tbsps oil
- 1 tsp each of cumin seeds, garam masala/mutton masala and coriander powder
- ½ tsp fennel seeds
- ½ inch cinnamon stick
- 3 cloves, 2 medium-sized onions (finely chopped)
- 1 green chilli (slit)
- 1 tbsp ginger garlic paste
- 2 medium tomatoes (grind to paste)
- ¼ tsp each of salt, and turmeric and chilli powders

**Preparation:**
**For mutton:**

Wash and clean the mutton thoroughly. Take the mutton pieces in a cooker along with salt, turmeric powder, chilli powder and coriander powder. Add water, mix well and pressure cook the mutton for 4-5 whistles. Let the pressure settle down before you open it.

**For masala:**

Heat oil in a pan and crackle cumin seeds, fennel seeds, cinnamon and cloves. When it crackles, add chopped onions and fry until slightly brown. Add green chilli and ginger garlic paste. Cook until the raw smell leaves.

Grind the tomatoes and add the tomato paste to the pan. Cook for a minute and then add salt, turmeric powder, coriander powder, mutton masala or garam masala, and cook the masala until the oil leaves out.

Add the cooked mutton along with the water. Check for seasoning. Close and cook for another 5-10 minutes. Open to find the oil floating all over the curry.

Mix once and serve hot with rice.

### Mysore White Chicken Pulao

**What you need:**
- 1 kg of chicken
- 1 tsp garlic paste and white pepper powder
- ½ bunch of coriander leaves
- Salt as required
- 2 cups of rice
- 1 tbsp lemon juice
- 3 cloves
- 1½ litres milk
- 5 green chillies
- 1 tsp ginger paste
- 1 inch cinnamon stick
- 10 cups of water
- 3 black cardamoms
- 200 gm of peas

**Preparation:**

**Step 1: Drain the rice**

In a large pot, bring the 10 cups of water to a rolling boil. Add a generous amount of salt (the water should taste salty like seawater). Drain the soaked rice and add it to the boiling water. Cook on high heat until the rice is 70 per cent cooked (the grains will be soft on the outside but will still have a firm, raw core). This usually takes about 5-6 minutes after the water returns to a boil. Immediately drain the rice completely in a large colander and set it aside.

**Step 2: Prepare the chicken gravy**

In a large, heavy-bottomed pot or Dutch oven, heat oil over medium heat. Add the whole spices - cinnamon stick, cloves and black cardamom. Saute for 30 seconds until fragrant. Add the ginger and garlic pastes. Saute for another minute until the raw smell disappears. Add the chicken pieces. Increase the heat to medium-high and cook for 5-7 minutes, stirring occasionally, until the chicken is opaque and lightly sealed. Add the green chillies, chopped coriander, white pepper powder and salt. Mix well. Pour in the one and half litres of milk. Bring it to a gentle boil, then reduce the heat to low. Cover the pot with a lid and let the chicken simmer in the milk for 20-25 minutes, or until the chicken is completely tender and cooked through.

**Step 3: Layering and dum cooking (steaming)**

Once the chicken is cooked, gently stir in the peas and lemon juice. Taste the gravy and adjust salt and pepper if needed. The gravy should be well-seasoned. Using a ladle, spread the chicken and gravy evenly at the bottom of the pot. Spread the parboiled rice over the chicken gravy carefully in an even layer. Cut the remaining 100 gm of butter into small pieces and dot them evenly over the top of the rice. Cover the pot with a tight-fitting lid. You can seal the edges with aluminium foil or a damp cloth to trap the steam (this is called the 'dum' process). Cook on very low heat for 15-20 minutes. This allows the rice to absorb the flavours from the gravy and steam to perfection without burning.

**Step 4: Serve**

After 20 minutes, turn off the heat. Do not open the lid immediately. Let the pot rest for another 10 minutes off the heat. Open the lid and gently fluff the rice with a fork, mixing the chicken and rice from the bottom layers.

Transfer to a serving dish, garnish with more fresh coriander and serve hot.

### Naati Koli Bassaru

**What you need:**
- 1 kg chicken
- 250 gm of green gram
- ½ tsp turmeric
- Onions - 3-4
- 2 Garlic bulbs
- 10-15 Green chillies
- 2 inches each Ginger and cinnamon
- 10-12 Cloves
- 1 tsp each pepper corn and pepper powder
- 4 tbsps of coriander
- 50 gm of khus khus
- 1 tbsp fried gram
- ½ coconut
- Curry leaves
- Salt to taste and oil to fry

**Preparation:**

Put a teaspoon of oil and the dry spices into a pan. Add the garlic and ginger, and roast for 3-4 minutes on a low flame till the spices are aromatic and the garlic is brown. Do not fry on a high flame as the spices will burn easily. Low and slow is the key when it comes to roasting spices. Set aside on a plate to cool.

In the same pan add the onions and green chillies. Adjust the quantity of green chillies according to your taste. Saute for a few minutes till the onions are soft. Remove and set aside to cool.

In the same pan add the fresh, shredded coconut and the coriander leaves. Saute for a few seconds till the leaves wilt. Set aside to cool.

Grind all the ingredients with about a cup of water to a smooth, very fine paste. Pour oil into a pressure pan and add curry leaves, onions and tomatoes all at once. Add in the salt and turmeric powder. Saute for a few minutes. Cover the pan and cook on low medium heat. The tomatoes will cook faster when covered with a lid due to the steam produced.

Add in the chicken. Broiler chicken or country chicken works fine. Traditionally nati koli/naatu kozhi/country chicken is preferred for this recipe. Toss the chicken well to coat. Add in the ground paste. Wash the mixie with a cup of water and add back to the pan. Add some more water as necessary for the chicken to cook. Cover the cooker and allow it to cook on the lowest flame possible for half an hour. The slow cooking enables developing the flavour of the curry. Ignore the number of whistles. Let the curry simmer for 30 minutes. Make sure there is enough water so the curry does not scorch at the bottom of the pan.

The Naati Koli Bassaru is ready. Serve it with ragi mudde or rice.

Curated by DH Brandspot

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# The gift of giving

## A heartwarming tale by Rachna Chhabria about a group that turns Children's Day into a festival of kindness

The children of Sankalpa Society, a gated community of 400 apartments, were excited about the Children's Day celebrations their building had planned.

The Resident Welfare Association (RWA) had allotted a large sum of money for the Children's Day party. With a few days left, the children were meeting regularly in the clubhouse to plan the event, organise the games, decide the menu and design the invites.

Nitara, one of the most active members, looked out of the window of the clubhouse. Her housekeeper Suman didi was walking past. Suman didi had been on leave for the past few days, as her entire family had fallen sick and inspite of being unwell herself, she had nursed her family.

"Suman didi," Nitara said.

Suman didi turned around and walked back towards the club house.

"What is it?" Suman asked. Worry lines creased her pleasant face.

"How are you feeling now?" Nitara responded. She was extremely fond of Suman Didi."Much better now Nitara baby," Suman said.

Nitara's friends laughed. At 12, Nitara was almost a teenager and was still being called a baby.

Turning to the children, Nitara smiled, "Suman didi has looked after me from the time I was six months old. For her I'll always be a baby."

"How is Keshu?" Nitara asked. Keshu was Suman didi's son.

"He is very upset as he and all the children missed the Diwali celebrations because of their illness."

"All the children of the neighbourhood fell sick at the same time?" Nitara asked.

"Yes, for some strange reason most of the people in the area fell sick. The doctor said it was either due to contaminated water or a nasty virus. So, we all spent our entire Diwali nursing sick people back to health. Most of our savings went in doctors' bills and medicines."

"So sad," Shiven said. He was also one of the most active members of the children's group, making one crazy plan after another, on a daily basis.

All the children knew Suman didi, she was a fabulous cook and whenever any meeting was held in Nitara's house, she served delicious snacks. Waving to the children, she walked towards Tower T, where Nitara lived.

"I have an idea," Shiven said. Everyone looked at him in surprise, wondering which weird idea had popped up in his mind.

"It better be a good idea," Nitara groaned.

"It's out of this world," Shiven smiled. "Instead of spending the money on a Children's Day party for ourselves, why don't we get a goodie bag for each child living in Suman didi's neighbourhood?"

"What a fabulous idea," Nitara said. "Why didn't I think of it?"The other children were equally excited.

"We can ask Suman didi to give us a list of all the children living in her area," Nitara said.

"Wait, we are forgetting the most important aspect," Ravita said.

Everyone stared at her with puzzled eyes.

"We need the permission of the RWA before we go ahead with our plans. The money was allotted for the children of the residents, not for anything else," Ravita said.

"Let's write a letter to Rao uncle, the president of the RWA of Sankalpa society. I'm sure he will support us," Shiven said.

"Shiven, what did you have for breakfast today? You are coming up with one good idea after another," Nakul said.

Vivaan tore a page from his notebook and started writing a letter to the president and members of the RWA. The children signed their names. Tucking the letter inside an envelope, they dropped it into the society's mail box.

The next day, the children were surprised to see a letter waiting for them in the clubhouse. It was Rao uncle's reply. The RWA members had signed it.

"It's a lovely idea, children. Go ahead and make a list of the number of children from the area and their ages. Make a list of the items you all want to put in the goodie bag. A few members will take you all shopping over the weekend.

Sincerely,

Raman Rao and members of the RWA of Sankalpa Society."

The children jumped in joy. "I'm so excited," Shiven said. "Let's make a list of items we need," Neeva said.

The children spent the next hour in the clubhouse, adding and deleting items from the list. Rao uncle and a few members dropped into the clubhouse by tea time. They looked at the excited children and smiled.

Over the next few days, the clubhouse was filled with bags of cookies, chips, chocolates, soft toys, crayons, cupcakes, notebooks, pens, tetra packs of juice, scrunchies for the girls and caps for the boys. The adults accompanying them had sourced them from the wholesalers at a big discount.

The goodie bags were packed. On Children's Day, the children from Suman didi's area walked into the clubhouse to receive their special goodie bag. All the faces sported a huge smile. What a special day it was for all the children.

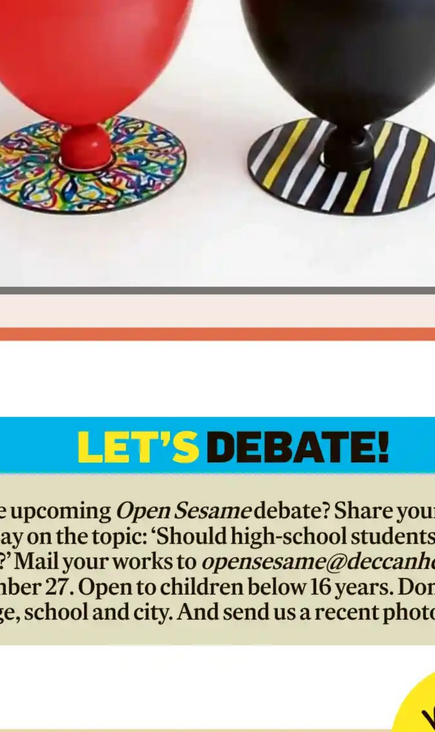
# 2 experiments using balloons

## ...and a few household items

### Static magic

**Materials needed:**
- A balloon
- Wool sweater or fleece cloth
- Tiny bits of paper or lightweight objects like confetti
- A piece of twine

**Method**
- Inflate the balloon and tie a knot at the end.
- Rub the balloon vigorously on your hair, or on a wool shirt/fleece cloth, for about 10-30 seconds.
- Tie a twine around the end of the balloon.
- Hang the balloon over the small paper bits and observe how they are attracted to the balloon. You can also try holding the balloon near your hair and see how it stands up.



**What happened?**
When you rub the balloon you transfer electrons, so the balloon gets electrically charged (static electricity). Lightweight paper bits are attracted to the charged balloon because opposite charges attract.

### Hovercraft fun

**Materials needed**
- A balloon
- An old CD or DVD
- A push-pull bottle cap
- Strong glue or tape
- Smooth surface (tile floor or smooth tabletop)
- Sketch pens or stickers

**Method**
- Use colours or stickers to decorate the CD or DVD.
- Glue the bottle cap (closed position) over the spindle hole of the CD so it's sealed.
- Inflate the balloon and pinch the end so air stays in.
- Stretch the balloon mouth around the cap.
- Place the hovercraft on the smooth surface and open the cap so the air escapes downward through the spindle hole.
- Watch as the CD hovercraft glides smoothly over the surface.



**What happened?**
When you open the cap, air flows out underneath the CD creating a thin cushion of air. This reduces friction between the CD and the surface, allowing it to "hover" and glide.

# Dear Shadow...

## Open Sesame readers write to their dark outline

### Hey Shadow,

I have so many questions for you. Who are you? Where have you come from? What do you eat? What do you do? What is your name? It's okay if you don't have a name, I'll give you one.

Would you like to be called Raja, Manu, Meena, Rani, or something else like Sona? Oh yes! Sona would be a good name.

I have a lot of questions to ask you, Sona! So, are you just a shadow, or do you have feelings like me? They say that you are a dark area produced when an object comes between light rays and a surface, and they think you mean sadness or gloom.

But I think you are not bad or ugly, because you are my best friend — you always stay with me. If I laugh, you laugh with me too. If I cry, you cry with me. And if I am angry, you are also angry.

Thank you, my best friend, for being with me forever.

With love,
**SANVI S NALWAD, 13**
BELAGAVI,
KARNATAKA

### Dear Shadow,

Hi! I see you every day, but I have never really talked to you. You always follow me wherever I go, even when I don't ask you to. Sometimes you look tall, sometimes short, and sometimes you disappear when there's no light. I think that's funny!

When I play outside, you play with me too. You run when I run and jump when I jump. You never get tired or bored. I like that you stay with me even when I am alone. You are like my secret friend who never talks but always listens.

Thank you for being with me always, my silent twin. Please don't leave me even when the lights go off!

Your friend,
**ISHAAN P S, 10**
MANGALURU,
KARNATAKA

### Hi my dear outline,

I am your real image, and you are my beautifully created ghost image by god. I think you are doing well under my shade. You are my most faithful companion, and I am sure you will be the same forever.

We both are like Jack and Jill, the colours black and white, and a lock and key. We can truly do wonders and have fun together by dancing, playing, jumping, etc.

You are nature's way of showing creativity and spreading joy among the people of this universe. Your appearance is because of light, in the absence of which you are always a dark, quiet echo of my life.

Every time I run, you chase me from behind; whenever I stand still, you also stand below my feet. So nice of you, my dear silhouette. You are the only one who doesn't ask for anything and always stays with me. Our ever-helping friend, the sun (light), made us the best companions.

Love you 'ghost image',
**JAITEERTH MANAS, 15**
RAICHUR, KARNATAKA

## LET'S DEBATE!

Want to take part in the upcoming *Open Sesame* debate? Share your thoughts in a crisp 200-word essay on the topic: 'Should high-school students choose the subjects they learn?' Mail your works to *opensesame@deccanherald.co.in*. Entries close on November 27. Open to children below 16 years. Don't forget to mention your name, age, school and city. And send us a recent photograph.

## Word of the Week

**glimmer**

(noun)
— a weak light that is not steady, or a small sign of something

Usage:
— Even when Sasha was in distress, her eyes had a glimmer of hope.
— The stars cast a glimmer across the still waters of the lake.

## This Week: Remarkable rays

Open Sesame Quiz

**Take the fun Open Sesame quiz, and stand a chance to win gift vouchers worth Rs 500. Open to children below 16 years.**

**Q1** World Radiography Day, on November 8, marks the anniversary of the production and detection of X-rays by Wilhelm Röntgen, in 1895. Which university housed the laboratory where he made that discovery?

**Q2** In 1901, which award, bestowed on Röntgen for the "extraordinary services he rendered by the discovery of X-rays", made him the first ever recipient of that great honour?

**Q3** "I have seen my death," declared Röntgen's wife, the subject of an experimental X-ray test. Which part of a limb, radiographed by her husband, displayed a skeletal image?

**Scan the QR code**
Or visit bit.ly/DHopensesame to participate in the quiz.

**Q4** **Rhyme Time:** Two clues to which the answers rhyme with each other.
**Clue A:** Protective X-ray apparel for clinicians is made of __.
**Clue B:** Person in charge of a group of people or an organisation.

**Q5** **Clue Cluster:** Which region of the body is most commonly X-rayed? Use these clues.
a) Thymus
b) Pulmonary
c) Sternum
d) Pleurisy

**LAST WEEK'S WINNERS: Ayam (11), Bengaluru; Rithuparna J K (12), Davanagere; Anukul Agnihotri (12), Hassan.**

## POETS IN THE MAKING

### Want to see your poetry in print?

Send in poems on the topic 'A scene from my window' to *Open Sesame*. You may be featured in an upcoming edition. Mail your work — not more than 12 lines — to *opensesame@deccanherald.co.in*. Entries close on November 13. Open to children below 16 years. Don't forget to mention your name, age, and city. And send us a recent photograph.

## ART CORNER

### Love painting?

Want to showcase your flair for colours? Send your paintings on the theme 'The world in 2050' to *Open Sesame* and stand a chance to get featured in an upcoming edition. Mail photographs of your work to *opensesame@deccanherald.co.in*. Open to children below 16 years. Don't forget to mention your name, age, and city. And send us a recent photograph of yourself. Entries close on November 20.

# A tumour, a 4,000 km run, and the spirit of ENDURANCE

**When he was 25, Jack Faint was diagnosed with a rare brain tumour. Six years on, he is running through the length of India as a tribute to the country that helped him find strength. DH journalist Shraddha A K met the British national on his pit stop in Bengaluru**

It is a weekday afternoon in Bengaluru. Five running enthusiasts have stepped away from work to meet Jack Faint, a British national who arrived in the city with his team earlier that morning. They have been following his running expedition, from India's highest frontier at the Siachen Glacier to Kanyakumari, where the land meets the ocean, through social media and news reports. Like me, they have come with questions. There is another plan: a 3 km run with Faint, from Palace Grounds to Vasanth Nagar.

Faint, who otherwise seems reserved, opens up once he hits the road. As we find our pace, the questions come quickly — about diet, endurance, recovery, running across diverse terrains, and the one everyone wants to ask, "What is it like to run with a tumour?"

Faint, 31, is no average runner. Six years ago, he was diagnosed with a rare, slow-growing brain tumour, called oligodendroglioma (see box). Yet he has continued to run marathons and ultramarathons while maintaining his tech job. Even now, he is on the final leg of his 4,000 km run down the length of India. By the time he entered Bengaluru through Devanahalli last week, he had been on the road for 60 days. He had averaged 50 kilometres a day and allowed himself only one day of rest.

His tumour, while terminal, does not currently affect his daily life. It sits quietly inside his skull. Faint says, "I live a normal life. I have no headaches, nausea, or dizziness. But since the tumour is growing close to the optic nerve, one day I might lose my vision." Yet what unsettles him most is its silence. It causes no pain, but it has changed him.

## Seizure while cycling

Like most 25-year-olds in 2019, Faint felt "indestructible". He smoked, drank, and did not take care of himself. "I was always chasing a good time," says the man from Cheshire in the UK. Then, one morning while cycling to work, he had a seizure and was rushed to the hospital. CT and MRI scans revealed a tumour in his brain, and a biopsy confirmed it as a grade-two oligodendroglioma. This tumour grows silently and often only shows signs through seizures, his doctor explained.

Shock, he realised, is memory's glue — he remembers it more than the diagnosis itself. It took weeks to accept the news. During that "grieving period", he confronted his life. Faint says that 12 to 18 months before his diagnosis, he had suffered from anxiety and depression and did not look after himself "in any way". His doctor advised a lifestyle change: stop smoking and drinking, eat a plant-based diet, and meditate.

After the diagnosis, Faint was given two options: surgery to remove the tumour or regular monitoring. He was scared but chose the latter. Deciding he still had much to live for, he went ahead with a long-planned trip to South America with his best friend. "I only carried a couple of anti-seizure medications. I took no other precautions. I carried on as normally as possible," he recalls. He hasn't suffered a seizure since but still keeps the medications close.

## Change in India

He and his friend decided to explore India after South America. They visited Goa, Mumbai, Chennai, Puducherry, Kolkata, Varanasi, Agra, Rishikesh, and Jaipur. Faint felt he "found himself again" and began piecing his life back together. Meditation helped him cultivate gratitude and joy despite his illness. He approached it as a survival tool, learning to observe his thoughts rather than be overwhelmed by them. He describes this phase as "a shedding of the old me".

When the pandemic brought travel to a halt in early 2020, Faint returned to Manchester to live with his sister and her husband. He found a tech job and eventually became a 'digital nomad' (who works remotely while travelling). Seeking another meaningful change, he took up running and discovered the joy of movement. He progressed from casual runs to marathons and ultramarathons. For him, running was not an escape; it was proof that his body could still achieve extraordinary things. Once he realised he could push his limits, he could not stop. This led to his most demanding challenge yet: his current expedition, 'Project India 2025'.

Faint notes that while many ultramarathon runners have completed the Kashmir-to-Kanyakumari route — including Rajasthan's Sufiya Sufi in a record-breaking 87 days — he believes no one has begun the run from "the true northernmost tip of India", the Siachen Glacier. He did not embark on this challenge to break records, but to salute India. When he was running ultramarathons around the world to raise money for cancer-related charities, he felt compelled to "go back to the country that helped me transform".

## Prep phase

Faint then logged long-distance runs to build the endurance needed for three months of continuous running. But he also needed a dedicated team to support and document the journey. He turned to four close friends he had met during his travels: Daniel Robinson (Dan), Fred Ried, Jordan Fairclough, and Devin Paisley. Ried, whom he met while attempting the UK's Three Peaks Challenge, joined as a logistics manager. Dan is in the same role. Fairclough is a former physical performance coach of the Liverpool Football Club. His expertise in recovery, in Faint's words, is "second to none". When Paisley, the videographer, had to step away, Benjamin Cooker (Ben) joined on Day 50, fresh from documenting the humanitarian crisis in Gaza.

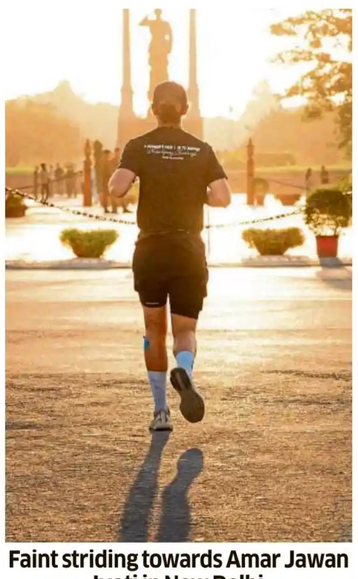
Rounding out the crew were two drivers from Bengaluru. The team found them through online research. They set off from the city in rented campervans and joined the crew in Ladakh on Day 12. The campervans became mobile homes, allowing the team to rest and cook their own meals — with a carb-rich diet tailored for Faint. Before this, the crew would split their luggage between two chase cars, and spend nights in lodges on the way.

Faint dug into his savings and also turned to crowdfunding to get the expedition off the ground.

## Ready, set, go

The team wakes up in the wee hours. Faint begins with a few hours of running, then breaks to eat and let Fairclough relieve the strain on his muscles. After a nap, he heads out for another round of running.

**Jack Faint arrived in Bengaluru on October 30, on the 61st day of his expedition.** DH PHOTO/B K JANARDHAN



**Faint striding towards Amar Jawan Jyoti in New Delhi.**

**After every day's run, Faint marks the end point with spray paint.**

**Faint and his crew comprising close friends taking a break near Ladakh.**

He runs seven to eight hours a day with minimal breaks. He considers running meditation in motion and uses the time to repeat positive affirmations. To keep Faint's momentum going, the crew members sometimes run along with him for as long as 35 km.

He began his expedition at Siachen Camp, threading through Ladakh and Leh, before moving onward to Rohtang and Manali in Himachal Pradesh. The Himalayan section, he says, took the most out of him. Especially the Nubra Valley of Ladakh, a rugged region inhabited by monks, patrolled by soldiers, and thronged by tourists. At 3,050 metres, the altitude makes helicopter navigation difficult and demands acclimatisation.

In Manali, he had a "special escort". "I had dogs running with me, but one in particular ran alongside me for almost 30 km," he recalls. The dog started following him after he crossed a "chaotic village" where a pack had tried to attack him. "Every time I turned around and saw the dog, I felt like crying. It was protecting me," he says.

The mountains had more surprises in store. On Day 11, a tendon strain between his shin and ankle left him unable to walk. It forced him into his only rest day of the expedition. "I eased back in. On Day 12, I walked. On Day 13, I switched between walking and running," he says. Each day, Fairclough worked on him with deep tissue and muscle release.

Strangers also kept his spirits high. Some ran short distances alongside him, while others cheered him on. In Chandigarh, he was welcomed with "full josh". In Punjab, families invited the crew over for meals. In cities like Nagpur, Hyderabad and Agra, Faint was warmly received at schools, press events, and a sports and running conference.

Thirty-five days in, in Andhra Pradesh, the corn on his feet began to hurt, and he had to visit a doctor. He was recommended a medical procedure and a week of rest, but he decided to delay treatment until after the run. That day, however, he and the crew succumbed to a bit of "palate fatigue" from eating the same rice cakes, tuna, peanut butter, porridge, and oats they had been having almost daily. So they decided to eat out.

## Bengaluru stop

The crowds cheering him on, or stopping to congratulate him, grew on Day 58 as he entered Karnataka, as it was the home state of the campervan drivers. "Usually the crew runs with me to keep me company, but the excitement on entering Karnataka was so high that even Manju, the lead driver, joined me for a short stretch," he recalls. Though the heat was bothering him, he ran farther than usual that day, covering 84 km, fuelled by the energy around him.

The crew had visited temples in every city along the way, and in Chikkaballapur, they dropped by a spiritual organisation. Then, around Devanahalli, Manju met his father, brother, and son after a month. "People think the run is extraordinary. But the extraordinary thing is what people will do for each other when the purpose is real," says Faint, reflecting on the contribution of his crew members.

He started his run from Bengaluru airport but was immediately slowed down by heavy traffic. Later that afternoon, the five local running enthusiasts joined him for a short stretch. Darshan J, who has a running group in J P Nagar, wants to "empower individuals to take control of their health through running", and he feels Faint represents that spirit.

The crew was in Bengaluru for less than 48 hours, but it was a packed stop for them. After the community run, Faint recovered with massages and ice baths at a gym. They had planned to try a beer spot and sample some of the food recommendations they had received — from Meghana, Donne, and Hosur biryanis to idlis and butter masala dosas. But in yet another moment of palate fatigue, they went in for a pizza instead.

Exiting through Hosur Road proved one of the hardest parts of the expedition. Faint had to get past traffic, open sewers, and broken roads, so he decided to run through villages on the outskirts instead. "I got hit in my shoulder by the mirror of a tuk-tuk (autorickshaw)," he says. And shortly after, because of persistent technical problems, they had to leave behind the campervans and continue in pickup trucks.

## Trained in hope

At the time of going to print, Faint was somewhere in Tamil Nadu. He expects to hit his final stop, Kanyakumari, on November 9, a week ahead of schedule. His parents, sisters, and girlfriend will be there to welcome him. After the run, he hopes to spend time with loved ones, write a book, release a documentary on 'Project India 2025', and give talks on personal growth.

Looking back, Faint says he wishes he could hug his 25-year-old self. "I want to tell him everything is going to be okay, and that, even in the face of illness, he will go on to live a far more wondrous life than he did before," he says. Over time, he has come to believe that "we all have it within us to heal" — not by rejecting medicine, but by learning to adapt. The man who once drank and smoked can become the one who meditates and runs ultramarathons. The man who panicked at the diagnosis of a rare tumour can become the one who can run 50 km a day at high altitudes. Hope, he has learned, isn't a feeling but a trained response.

And the tumour? It is still there. He lives with it every day, but it is no longer the 'main character'. "I have a couple of scans scheduled in a month to check its progress," Faint says.

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### All about oligodendroglioma

- According to Dr Naveen T, director of Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology, Bengaluru, oligodendrogliomas are among the rarest primary brain and central nervous system tumours, and they make up only 5% of all cases globally. They are often diagnosed in adults aged between 40 and 50. There is a slight predominance among males. At his centre, he sees about 10 new cases a year.
- Despite its rarity, the five-year relative survival rate is 85%, and long-term outcomes are also favourable, with a 10-year survival rate of 72.3%. He advises against physical activity for patients prone to seizures. "However, those who have undergone brain surgery and show no symptoms can exercise in moderation, with their oncologist's approval," he says. This includes activities such as running. "Every case is different," he explains.

MUSICANA

# 12-year-old Bengaluru band set to release second EP

**The five-track EP, which blends soul, blues, and jazz rock, addresses topics like toxic relationships, writes Rashmi Rajagopal**

In 2013, Debjeet Basu put out a Facebook post asking for interested musicians to audition for a band. Unlike Bengaluru's legacy bands, born in college jam rooms and festivals, this was a coming together of people completely unknown to each other but with similar musical inclinations. Basu named it Perfect Strangers.

More than 10 years later, the group is set to release its second EP, titled 'Honey Words'. They started out as a cover band focused on classic rock. But over the years, their sound has expanded to include a mix of soul, blues, jazz rock and funk rock. 'Honey Words', Basu says, is a reflection of that eclectic mix. "We have evolved as musicians and so has our sound," he adds.

Apart from Basu, the band currently comprises Ananya Raja (vocals), Pranav D M (vocals), Joshua Costa (keys), Pranav Gulvady (saxophone), Vishal Varier (bass) and Preran Gulvady (drums).

From 2001 to 2016, Basu held a corporate job. "But I somehow always made time for music," says the guitarist. In 2016, he left his job to pursue music full-time and during the pandemic, he set up a music school, Perfect Strangers School of Music, in Victoria Layout.

Their first EP 'A Strange Connection' came out in 2018. "It was straight up rock — very different from the new EP," Basu notes.

'Honey Words' was recorded in a friend's studio. "It was like a DIY project," he says. It was recorded in seven days in August this year and is inspired by the personal experiences of the members of the band. The title track, for instance, addresses the subject of toxic relationships, something one of the members was grappling with when he wrote the song. "All the tracks are uptempo and this one leans more towards old school funk," Basu explains.

'Echo chamber' talks about social media and living in a bubble. "It is about how we shield ourselves from the truth and only hear what we want to hear," he shares. In 'Sand castle', they sing about how people are gaslit into believing that 'everything is fine, though one should be more concerned about inflation, poverty and the economic imbalance'. The music is reminiscent of '80s rock ballads with influences from the likes of Toto.

The EP will be released at a performance in Bengaluru. They will not be releasing their music on streaming platforms. Instead, listeners can access the new album through a QR code by making a payment. "Listeners can enjoy the music in its original, pure format, which is not possible on streaming platforms as they tend to 'crush' the tracks, which lowers the sound quality," he explains.

**Perfect Strangers recorded their second album in seven days.**

Nidhi Hegde. DH PHOTO/B K JANARDHAN

**Nidhi Hegde talks to Pranati A S about how she switched from beauty pageants to acting, and why women deserve better on the locations**

# 'There should be at least one woman on the sets'

Nidhi Hegde, who was last seen in the webseries 'Marigallu', began her journey in the industry with the anthology 'Kathasangama'. She was also seen in a small but important role in 'Sapta Sagaradaache Ello'. She will next be seen in 'Ravana Rajyadalli Navadampathigalu'. Excerpts from an interview:

**"I was a huge fan of Govinda."**

Nidhi grew up with a passion for acting. Growing up in the '90s, she saw India winning all the major beauty pageants. That had an influence on her. "I was raised in Pune, so I was also heavily influenced by Bollywood," she says.

"I was a huge fan of Govinda," she shares, adding that Aishwarya Rai, Amitabh Bachchan, Om Puri and Paresh Rawal were some of her other favourite actors. "Every time I saw them on screen, it was magical."

Nidhi enrolled in an acting course from Annapurna College of Film and Media in Hyderabad. "If we passed the auditions, we would get to act in grad films which were a great learning experience," she shares. It was at Annapurna that Nidhi got to collaborate with Kannada filmmakers. In 'Kathasangama', she played a small role in one of the films called 'Lacchavva'. She also worked as an assistant director for the film. "I believe there should be at least one woman on a set. There were absolutely no women on that team, but the protagonist was a woman. It was still a beautiful learning experience," she shares.

Nidhi's favourite role is that of Ganapi from 'Neeli Hakki' (2021). It made it to film festivals but was never released in theatres. "She was so different from who I am. But I loved portraying her — a village girl with lofty ambitions. I also like my character in my upcoming film, 'Ravana Rajyadalli Navadampathigalu'. I play an innocent girl who gets trapped with a cruel boy," she says.

**"Access to caravan on set is still a major demand"**

Even basic needs are met based on how big the actor is. "I'm still not considered a serious actor. I have done quite a few movies but unfortunately, the films have not yet seen the light of day. Basic needs like toilets and a safe space for costume changes are still considered huge demands. They say 'she is throwing tantrums'. That is a huge challenge," she says, adding, "Sometimes, I'm even scared to ask for a caravan."

**"Give me a character outline and I will choose the colours to paint it"**

Talking about how she approaches a role, Nidhi says, "I follow the Meisner technique. I ask a lot of questions. I want the director to give me an outline of the character and my job as an actor is to choose the right colours to paint it. I cannot go beyond the lines that they have drawn.But the choice of colours is something I can make." She does not go after too many references to give herself the chance to explore more.

**"Scripts over characters"**

Nidhi priorises better scripts over better characters. Even if it is a minute role, she says it is alright as long as she likes the film as a whole. "My aim has always been to be a part of a good story rather than choosing a project based on a character. I like being a part of slice-of-life films. There is also a lot of scope for the actor to showcase their skills in such movies. It's like the actor's playground," says Nidhi. Though she enjoys comedy, she feels it is a challenging genre for actors.

**"Imtiaz Ali is my dream director"**

She dreams of working with Imtiaz Ali. "'Tamasha' is one of my most favourite films. His films are about the journey of a story and the impact the story has on people. And most importantly, I like how he treats his female characters," she says.

# The timeless cinema of Ritwik Ghatak

**Samvartha Sahil pays tribute to the auteur in his birth centenary year**

There is something deeply satisfying and at the same time poignant about celebrating the birth centenary of Ritwik Ghatak, the maverick filmmaker, thinker, and writer. He made films not out of love for the medium but to reach more people. His work is reaching a wider audience now than it did in his lifetime. His films have stood the test of time. But it unfortunately also means that the problems he highlighted have not been solved to this day.

The Ghatak trilogy — 'Meghe Dhaka Tara' (1960), 'Komal Gandhar' (1961), and 'Subarnarekha' (1965) — depicting the lives of people displaced during the Bengal partition, has gained greater relevance today when conflicts and crises have turned citizens from across the world into refugees.

We are surrounded not just by refugees like Neeta ('Meghe Dhaka Tara'), Bhrigu and Anasuya ('Komal Gandhar'), and Ishwar, Sita and Abhiram (Subarnarekha), but also Ramu ('Nagarik', 1977), Haridas ('Bari Theke Paliye', 1958), Sanat, Montu ('Meghe Dhaka Tara'), and Nachiketa ('Jukti Takko Aar Gappo', 1974), who are not able to find jobs despite being well-qualified.

Though Ghatak claimed the purpose of his art was to "record the great changes", clearly his works go beyond that. Even when his intent was documentarian, his deep understanding and creative genius make his works speak truth beyond facts.

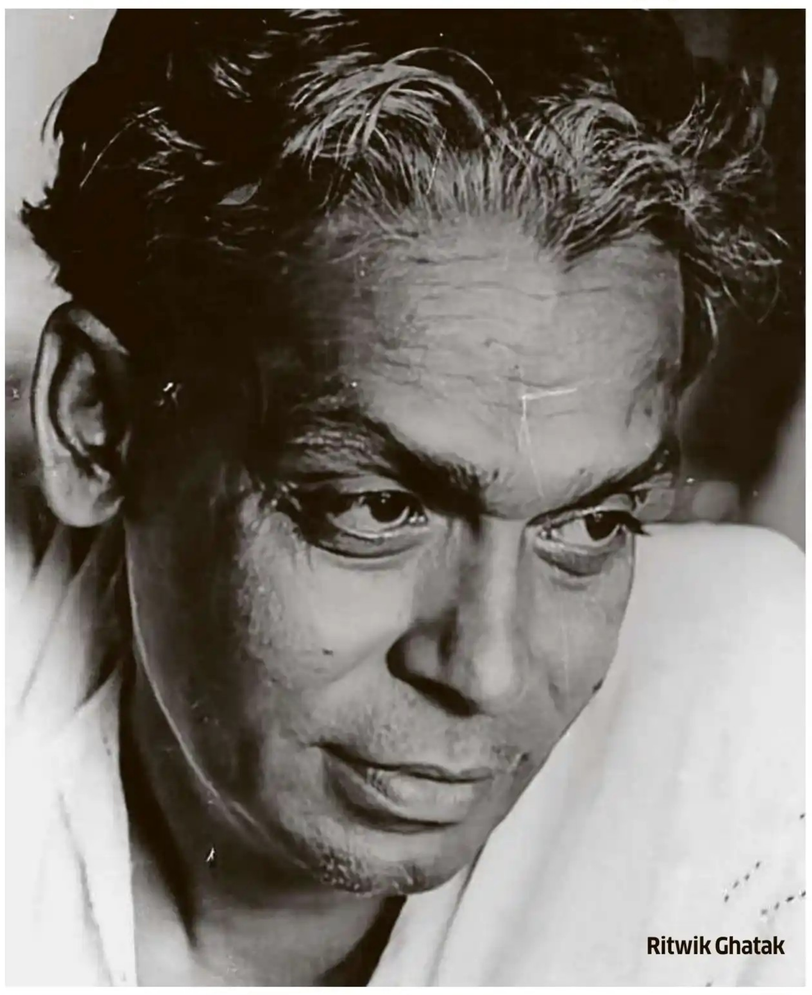
Poverty, a burning problem even today, is a big concern in Ghatak's works. But to him, poverty was not just an economic condition. He saw how the desperation and uncertainty caused by poverty dehumanised people to the point where it could kill a woman's motherliness (Meghe Dhaka Tara) and erode the tender romance between two lovers (Nagarik).

In today's world, where humans are tethered to devices, 'Ajantrik' (1958) finds great relevance and reminds us that an imagination igniting the humanness within us is more important than technological advancements that mechanise humans.

For Ghatak, the medium of cinema held "no value", only "the content, the message" did. In his opinion, "all art expressions should be geared towards the betterment of man". So, while making 'Titas Ekti Nadir Naam' (1973), his last film, he effortlessly deviated from his character- and plot-driven approach to make a film in the style of an essay. Like a river breaking into tributaries, the thin narrative of the film broke into tributaries and told the story of an entire community, and reached a point where it spoke about civilisations.

Even while following single characters in his earlier films, he found ways to reveal that he was telling a larger story. 'Nagarik' ends with the protagonist overhearing the conversation of a family moving into the house where he previously lived, which makes him and the audience realise that many share the same fate as that of the protagonist. Similarly, 'Meghe Dhaka Tara' in its last scene shows an unknown woman's footwear getting broken the same way as protagonist Neeta's used to. It states that there are many more Neetas out there.

Since Ghatak was not interested in telling stories of individuals, humans became important not for what they were but for what they did. In his 1963 documentary about sarod maestro Ustad Allaudin Khan, his focus is less on the musician's life and more on his legacy. The spark of inspiration triggered by Lenin became more important to him in 'Amar Lenin' (1970) than the man himself.


Ritwik Ghatak

Madhavi Mukherjee plays Sita, a refugee in 'Subarnarekha', the last film in Ghatak's 'Partition Trilogy'.

Ghatak saw life in long shot too, and not just in close-up. Hence, in 'Ajantrik', even when Jagaddal, a dilapidated taxi, is sold as scrap, the child playing with the horn brings a smile on Bimal's face. Even after losing his sister Sita and losing his job, Ishwar's face lights up seeing his nephew's enthusiasm to find a home by the Subarnarekha river. And even when dying of thirst on a riverbed, Basanti is overwhelmed to see a child run in the paddy field.

According to Ghatak, "There is no eternal truth. Every artiste has to find his own personal truth through a painful personal process. And that is what he has to convey." His personal truth was that he was a Bengali who hailed from East Bengal and was forced out of his place of belonging. Interestingly, in his mind, through the lens of creativity, he saw everything undivided. This, perhaps, was his unconscious protest against the divisions created by the world.

Ghatak seamlessly moved from 'The Internationale' (communist song) to a harvest song in 'Amar Lenin'. And in 'Komal Gandhar', he wove together the ache of Anusuya's divided mind, the tension between divided teams, and the pain of divided Bengal — for he could see patterns of similarities and connections in the web of life. He could also contain opposites together — the mother in 'Meghe Dhaka Tara', who is the birth giver and also the destroyer, the village and the city in 'Bari Theke Paliye' that cares and also scares, and Durga in 'Jukti Takko Aar Gappo', who provides shelter and also punishes.

Such creation is possible only when one has an epic sensibility and mythological inclination, and is in tune not just with the world but also with life itself.

*(The author teaches screenwriting at FTII, Pune)*

FEEDBACK
Send your ideas and comments to dhonsat @deccanherald.co.in

MOVIE R | E | V | I | E | W | S

## Shah Bano story neglects larger context

GURUPRASAD D N

One of the Supreme Court judgments whose fallout changed the course of Indian history, in a regressive way, has now made it to the big screen through 'Haq' (Right). Though the events in the film don't strictly adhere to the facts of the case, the filmmaker reflects on the popular opinion of the case.

'Haq' opens with a traditional Muslim marriage of Shazia Bano (Yami Gautam) and Abbas Khan (Emraan Hashmi). Abbas, a successful lawyer, and Shazia, a homemaker, enjoy a peaceful life with their three children— for a brief time. When love fades without apparent reason, Abbas brings home a second wife, leaving Shazia shocked and heartbroken. Though she initially accepts the situation, she eventually leaves Abbas and returns to her father's house. Abbas, who had been providing monthly maintenance, abruptly stops it. Supported by her father, Shazia challenges her husband in a general court for alimony — a claim widely assumed to fall under Sharia law. The courtroom drama explores what happens next.

Yami Gautam plays Shazia Bano.

★★☆☆☆

**Haq**
**Hindi (Theatres)**
**Director: Suparn Verma**
**Cast: Yami Gautam, Emraan Hashmi, Sheeba Chaddha, Vartika Singh**

The film, which tries to depict a slice of history, struggles on several fronts. It limits the case to the struggle of a Muslim woman for alimony, and fails to bring in the larger social context which influenced this case and even led to further consequences. With director Supran Verma taking the liberty to deviate from the actual events of the real-life case, the film fails to have a sharper critique of patriarchy. It misses the opportunity to confront prevailing gender norms of Indian society. The film also lacks emotional depth — apart from a few scenes of the children resenting their father (Abbas), the inner lives of all the characters, except Shazia's, fall flat. Even the courtroom scenes lack intensity.

In the end, the film connects this case to the BJP government banning triple Talaq. This makes it look like the exploration of a larger social context including that of the Muslim community was deliberately avoided. In today's polarised times, a cursory understanding of the Uniform Civil Code is used as a political tool against minorities instead of bringing a structural change in society. It cannot be assumed that films like 'Haq' are innocent in their portrayal of history.

## A feminist mass entertainer

PRANATI A S

When you are watching Rashmika Mandanna's 'The Girlfriend', the 2017 movie 'Arjun Reddy' is sure to cross your mind. But what sets the former apart is director Rahul Ravindran's gaze.

★★★☆☆

**The Girlfriend**
**Telugu (Theatres)**
**Director: Rahul Ravindran**
**Cast: Rashmika Mandanna, Dheekshith Shetty, Rohini, Anu Emmanuel**

Set in a college in Hyderabad, 'The Girlfriend' follows Bhooma (Rashmika), a literature student and Vikram (Dheekshith Shetty), a computer engineering student obsessed with the idea of having a wife who can cook and clean for him. He meets Bhooma, who is a timid young girl with altruistic traits. But soon Bhooma wises up and decides to cut him loose. However, each time she tries to break up with him, he convinces her they are the perfect couple, until his misogynist acts can no longer be tolerated.

'The Girlfriend' has all the tropes of an entertainer — romance, action and songs. But what it doesn't have is the male gaze, a common characteristic of most Indian movies. The movie, in many ways is like 'Arjun Reddy', but misogyny is not glorified here, instead the director depicts it as a serious mental illness. About 15 minutes into the film, you become aware of the director's intent. That does make the movie predictable. But you want to watch it until the end to see how he handles tricky situations.

Rashmika Mandanna plays Bhooma.

What stood out in the movie was actor Rohini as Vikram's mother. Though brief, her performance stole the show. Rashmika should continue to choose powerful female characters — her role of Srivalli from 'Pushpa' was another strong woman character.

To conclude, Rashmika Mandanna's 'The Girlfriend' is a feminist's answer to all the misogynistic movies out there.

## She flunks, she lusts, she lives

ANGEL RANI

The bad girl, obviously, is bad at everything her family and society expect her to be good at. She fails exams, mocks social norms, and sneers at the thpught of respecting elders (what even is that?). In puberty, she lusts after schoolboys. Veiny arms are her thing.

By her 20s, she is a walking scandal, unapologetic about her cloudburst of desire as she explores her sexuality.

Anjali Sivaraman's Ramya is a delight as Miss Misfit, refusing even the faintest nod to conformity. She may be a cautionary tale, but she is defiantly herself.

A restless Ramya rides a roller-coaster of emotions, unsure of what she wants, yet ever ready for trial and error. In school, she is her teacher-mother's (Shanthipriya) constant headache, caught in a "questionable" moment with her boyfriend (Hridhu Haroon) during an excursion. At home, she is her grandmother's perennial problem child, prancing through the kitchen even while menstruating.

Anjali Sivaraman plays the lead.

★★★☆☆

**Bad Girl**
**Tamil (JioHotstar)**
**Director: Varsha Bharath**
**Cast: Anjali Sivaraman, Shanthipriya, Hridhu Haroon**

Her school boyfriend is shipped off to Singapore. In college, she sets her sights on the reddest flag of them all — a skunk of a bad boy, because trouble is her type. "Where do our nicknames go when we break up?" wonders the relationship-hopper as she stumbles into her 30s.

'Bad Girl' doesn't pretend to fix the chaos its protagonist creates. It's a clear-eyed portrait of a free-spirited woman who smashes patriarchy with her anarchy. Even as she wonders whether she is the odd one out, she finds joy with her cats in the quiet corner of her home.

Her friends whisper pearls of wisdom: "It's impossible for one guy to heal the hurt left by another." Amen. And the anarchy continues. She is a bad girl.

### Cup win docuseries mooted

Actor Saiyami Kher, an avid cricket fan, believes that the inspiring journey of Indian women cricketers and their recent World Cup victory deserves a cinematic portrayal. India clinched their first-ever global title in women's cricket on Sunday, a landmark moment for the sport in India. Saiyami, who played a cricketer in the 2023 sports drama 'Ghoomer', said a film won't be able to do justice to the stories of the players who made the historic triumph possible.

### Book on cinema out

Cinema Bandi, a compilation of articles on cinema, is just out. Written by well-known journalist Basavaraju Megalakeri, it brings together his articles on actors, filmmakers and films. Kannada cinema gets pride of place. The book, in Kannada, also features cinema in other Indian languages, and world cinema. A remarkable essay with primary research traces how films change the course of people's lives — it tracks stories of real life emulating reel life. Published by Pallava Prakashana, the book is priced at Rs 499.

### Album 'The Indian Odyssey' released

National Award-winning composer and producer Shashwat Sachdev unveiled a nine- track album that reimagines India's musical heritage from a contemporary lens. Called 'The Indian Odyssey', it features an eclectic ensemble including Kutle Khan, Dara Khan, Sanah Hegde, Vishal Dadlani, and Sanjith Hegde. It also showcases instrumentalists like Parupalli Phalgun and Naveen Kumar (flute), Mehtab Ali Niazi (sitar), Pratik Shrivastava (sarod), and Siva Mani (drums) among others.

It is available across all major streaming platforms.

### Actress slams reporter for body shaming

Actor Gouri G Kishan slammed a YouTuber for asking a derogatory question about her weight during a press conference on Friday.

Her reply went viral, earning her support from numerous personalities. Gouri asked the man, "how does my weight concern you in any way. How does it matter and be relevant to the film? My weight is my choice and it does not concern my talent....." (sic)

She also expressed concern that none among those present in the press conference had extended support to her.

## Vivaan six-for powers Wilson Garden

**BENGALURU, DHNS:** Vivaan Tanay Desai dazzled with a 6/25 effort as Wilson Garden Cricket Club defeated Chintamani Sports Association, Chintamani by 49 runs in the low-scoring affair in the KSCA Group I - I, II & III Division under-14 inter-club tournament here.

LOCAL CRICKET

**Brief scores:** Wilson Garden Cricket Club: 132 all out in 41.4 overs (Arnav Rajiv VP 33; Aryan Angadi 3-18, Raghav K Kumar 2-14, Krishna Verma 3-36, Smaran Chiranjeevi 2-15) bt Chintamani Sports Association, Chintamani: 83 all out in 30.4 overs (Vivaan Tanay Desai 6-25, Shrevin Das 2-21).
The Bangalore Cricketers: 103 all out in 38.4 overs (Hannan Zaki Ahmad 2-12, Samji Vishnu Sathwik 2-16, Aanav Agarwal 2-5) lt to Swastic Union Cricket Club (2): 107/2 in 16.1 overs (Hannan Zaki Ahmad 53 n.o.).
Malleswaram Gymkhana: 164 all out in 42.1 overs (Abhay Chavan 66, Himanshu N 39, Daksh Siddappa 28; Gagan SP 3-27, Ahan 3-33, Kshitij Bharadwaj H 3-23) bt Jawahar Sports Club (2): 129 all out in 44 overs (Abhay Chavan 2-13, Himanshu N 2-5).
Sir Syed Cricketers: 194/9 in 50 overs (Vismith KS 29; Naveena G 30, Priyanshu Yadav 30; Amit SS 6-29) lt to Bangalore Occasionals: 195/6 in 39.2 overs (Sohum Joshi 38, Sairaj R Porwal 45, Aayat Rahim Khan 28, Jagan TP 35 n.o.; Reet Agrawal 2-44, Anirudh Saha 3-29).
Visweswarampuram Cricket Club (1): 465/8 in 50 overs (Aarav Srivastava 115, Ameya Prashant Nayak 58, Abhyuday T 94 n.o., Atharv Shrivastav 25, Tejasvi Sharma 43; Aditya Kumar Singh 3-76) bt Palar Sports Club, Kolar: 92 all out in 33.5 overs (Kishanth JM 28; Aditya Singh 2-10, Tejasvi Sharma 2-10, Advay Choudhary 3-11).
Dooravani Cricketers (1): 226 all out in 48 overs (Krishav Karthik 65, Prapul BM 34; Aryav SK 2-44, Kishan Yadav A 2-14, BA Gowri Shankar 2-15) bt Jawans Cricket Club: 147 all out in 48.1 overs (BA Gowri Shankar 40, Kishan Yadav A 28; Jaitra Gupta 2-20, Krishav Karthik 2-15, Aarav Mishra S 2-30).
Rajajinagar Cricketers: 261/5 in 50 overs (Prabhav Pydah 76, Tejas 74, Aaryan Nagesh 29, M Neeraj 43 n.o.) bt Jawahar Sports Club (1): 165 all out in 46.2 overs (Amey 41, Cheran Tej Raju C 25; M Neeraj 4-30).
Swastic Union Cricket Club (1): 202/7 in 50 overs (Saachin Suresh Araganji 59, Hrithvik Shetty 65; Ved Nahar 2-36, Vishv Sachin Raddi 2-29) bt Vijaya Cricket Club: 137 all out in 42.5 overs (Tanush Mishra 47; Tejas Sudhindra Bhat 4-18, Saachin Suresh Araganji 3-25, Vivaan Bhusad 3-22).
Coles Cricket Club: 74 all out in 33 overs (Rohit Sai Ketireddi 2-12, Srigaganesh M 4-15, Rivansh Mohapatra 3-5) lt to Engrades Cricket Club: 75/2 in 23.1 overs (Sriganesh M 31 n.o.).

## Ayaan's all-round show steers Kapali CC

**BENGALURU, DHNS:** An all-round show by Ayaan Waheed Mohammad powered Kapali Cricket Club to a 39-run victory over Young Pioneer Cricket Club in the KSCA Group I - I, II & III Division under-14 inter-club tournament here.

LOCAL CRICKET

**Brief scores:** Kapali CC: 166 all out in 46.1 overs (Ayaan Waheed Mohammad 74, Arush Jadhav 31; Sami Kadakol 2-31, Prateek R 3-32) bt Young Pioneer CC: 127 all out in 44.1 overs (BY Sidarth 29, Charan Gokul S 31; Ayaan Waheed Mohammad 6-22).
City Gymkhana: 257/8 in 50 overs (Jashwanth M 67, Bhairav Gowda 57; Mohammed Faraaz Sharif 3-39) bt Modern CC: 70 all out in 35.3 overs (Chirantan Chinmaya Mangalore 3-6, Meghan KJ 5-20).
Hammonds CC: 232/9 in 50 overs (Vikrant Ronav Budala 76, Sangeeta Rao Sashang 84; Prithvi Pradeep 3-39, Veer HK 2-28) bt Vijaya CC, Malur: 184 all out in 45 overs (Kartikeya Singh B 37, Aerit Singh 47, Anjan Reddy N 25; Vivan 3-22, Manthan 2-31, Sangeeta Rao Sashang 2-9).
Super CC: 107 all out in 32.1 overs (Abhirath Praveen 40; Paajwal 2-16, Dhruva NK 3-14, Kanthesh G Kakanur 2-20) lt to South End SC: 108/8 in 29 overs (Ravi Bharghav Gowda 25 n.o.; Smaran Bharadwaj 3-23, Abhirath Praveen 2-16, Raghav Ashishkumar Bhensdadia 2-10).
Bangalore SC: 407/2 in 50 overs (Pavandeep R Bharadakane 108, Trishaan Sethi 33, K Hrithik Polin 132 n.o., Krishna 120 n.o.) bt Bharath CC: 46 all out in 29.4 overs (Gaurav Jeevan 26; Vishist PJ 3-9).
Jayanagar United Cricketers: 146 all out in 49.3 overs (Ojas Jha 29, Sudip Balaguru 27 n.o.; Rahul Jena 2-29, Thamish T 3-16, Jeet D 2-30) lt to Young Lions Club: 147/4 in 45.5 overs (Mohammed Yaseen 82 n.o.).
Friends Union Cricketers, KGF: 123 all out in 47 overs (Rajat Angolkar 34; Kotarvedu Shashaank Reddy 2-14, SK Sharath 3-17) lt to Southern Cricketers: 124/1 in 28.5 overs (Chayaank Pradeep 43 n.o., Likhith Gangappa Gaddi 52 n.o.).
Neptune CC: 68 all out in 19.5 overs (Vinjamuri Rushyanth 2-5, Arya Ayyappan 3-20, Vyom Naidu 5-23) lt to Social Cricketers: 69/1 in 8.4 overs (Athreya Bhat 45 n.o.).
Engrades CC: 180 all out in 49.4 overs (Rohit Sai Ketireddi 30, Gnanesh Subramani 40, Sriman Pratyush Reddy Alamuru 26; Rishi Rege 2-25, Nabeel Danish Patel 3-44) bt Cambridge CC: 105 all out in 38.1 overs (Ibrahim Khan 28; Sriman Pratyush Reddy Alamuru 2-23, Rohit Sai Ketireddi 3-19, Sriganesh M 2-28, Rivansh Mohapatra 2-11).
Mathikere CC: 173/9 in 50 overs (Gagan P Maiya 30, Saket Chandramouli 32, Manish Bahuguna 29; Sai Yashmith Selapaka 3-25, Darsheel MC 2-34) bt Friends Union CC (2): 94 all out in 38 overs (Sidharth Nayaka NS 3-14, Syed Abbas 2-25, Saket Chandramouli 2-14).

CRICKET FIFTH T20I

# India eye another bilateral scalp

### Visitors target batting consistency, Australia hope to counter spin threat

BRISBANE, PTI

On the cusp of another overseas series win, India will look to overcome batting inconsistencies and finish the tour of Australia with authority when the two sides clash in the fifth and final T20 International here on Saturday.

With an unassailable 2-1 lead in the five-match series, India have extended their 17-year streak of not losing a T20I series against Australia and Suryakumar Yadav and Co. will look to finish strongly in this one too.

The focus will be on Shubman Gill and skipper Suryakumar Yadav's batting, while Australia will look to counter India's spin challenge when the two sides clash for the last time ahead of next year's T20 World Cup in India and Sri Lanka.

India showed better tactical awareness in the previous match, adjusting on a tricky Carrara pitch. Gill led the way in a promising start of 121 for 2 in 14 overs before a late collapse.

India will look to finish strongly after taking an unassailable 2-1 lead in the five-match series to extend their 17-year streak of not losing a T20I series against Australia. AP/PTI

**LIVE 1:45 PM, STAR SPORTS NETWORK, JIOHOTSTAR**

For vice-captain Gill, it has been seven innings without a fifty, though his 46 in the fourth T20 was a sign of his returning form.

Suryakumar has also shown flashes of brilliance across the series but has struggled to convert his starts. The captain would be expected to bat with more freedom and lead by example ahead of next month's South Africa.

Tilak Varma is another batter who is yet to find his rhythm, managing scores of 0, 29, and 5 in his last three outings.

The pressure will also be on wicketkeeper-batter Jitesh Sharma, who has featured ahead of Sanju Samson in the last two games.

Abhishek Sharma, however, has lived up to his reputation as the world's top-ranked T20 hitter, scoring a fluent half-century and providing brisk starts.

India's lower order has also chipped in effectively, with Axar Patel smashing an 11-ball 21 in the previous match. The presence of all-rounders at No. 7 and No. 8 has given the team valuable flexibility and depth.

In the bowling department, Arshdeep Singh has once again proved his worth for India, picking up four wickets and forming an effective new-ball pairing with Jasprit Bumrah.

The spin trio of Varun, Axar, and Washington has been a major strength for India. Shivam Dube and Washington have been instrumental with bat and ball.

# Indians have a ball in the third round

### Erigaisi, Pranav, Harikrishna notch up impressive wins

MANISHA MOHITE

Arjun Erigaisi (left) makes a move during his win over Shamsiddin Vokhidov of Uzbekistan. FIDE

Indian chess strength was more than emphasised with five of the top six boards featuring an Indian in the third round of the FIDE World Cup in progress at Resort Rio in Goa.

Arjun Erigaisi, P Harikrishna and reigning world junior champion Pranav Venkatraman scored victories. Collectively, this was the best day for India as all the ten players in fray either scored victories or drew their encounters.

There was some drama in the encounter between Pranav and Titas Stremavicius in the dying stages of the game when the latter in acute time pressure with barely a few seconds on his clock, called upon the arbiters to claim extra time according to technicalities.

Pranav was in a better position at that time and the ensuing five minutes gave an extra five minutes for Titas to think before the game commenced again. Pranav brought home the point after 102 moves. Pranav had played the Tarrasch variation against the French defence adopted by Titas.

D Gukesh, R Praggnanandhaa, Diptayan Ghosh, Vidit Gujrathi, SL Narayanan, M Pranesh and Karthik Venkatraman drew their games. Pranesh also played well to hold world number 4 Vincent Keymer to a draw.

Nodirbek Abdusattorov, the 8th highest rated player here, was shocked by 26-year-old Mexican Jose Martinez Alcantara in the biggest upset of the day. The 14-year-old Erdogmus Yagiz Kaan also held higher rated and reputed Richard Rapport to a draw while another favourite Anish Giri too had to stay content with a draw.

**Results (Round 3):** GM Frederik Svane (GER) drew with GM D Gukesh; GM Arjun Erigaisi bt GM Shamsiddin Vokhidov (UZB); GM Robert Hovhannisyan drew with GM R Praggnanandhaa; GM Pranav Venkatesh bt GM Titas Stremavicius (LTU); GM Vincent Keymer (GER) drew with GM Pranesh M; GM Diptayan Ghosh drew with GM Gabriel Sargissian (ARM); GM S L Narayanan drew with GM Yangyi Yu (CHN); GM Sam Shankland (USA) drew with GM Vidit Gujrathi; GM Karthik Venkataraman drew with GM Bogdan-Daniel Deac (ROU); GM Pentala Harikrishna bt GM Daniel Dardha (BEL).

# Villa edge Maccabi amid tense atmosphere

PARIS, AFP

Aston Villa beat Maccabi Tel Aviv 2-0 in the Europa League on Thursday in a match dominated by tight security measures in Birmingham with travelling fans barred over safety concerns.

Some 700 police were positioned around the stadium as pro-Palestinian and pro-Israel protesters held separate demonstrations outside Villa Park in the run-up to kick-off.

The protests passed largely peacefully, with police saying they made six arrests for offences ranging from racial aggravation to failing to comply with a dispersal order.

Villa announced last month that no Maccabi fans would be allowed at the match following a police risk assessment.

Villa took the lead one minute into first-half added time through Ian Maatsen.

Donyell Malen

Donyell Malen doubled the lead shortly before the hour as Unai Emery's side moved to nine points after four matches.

"(It was a) good evening," Villa manager Emery told TNT Sports.

"Focus and respecting the competition and the teams. We were playing solidly and playing seriously."

Elsewhere, Roma won 2-0 at Rangers thanks to first-half strikes by Matias Soule and Lorenzo Pellegrini.

# Rybakina rattles Pegula to punch final ticket

**RIYADH, REUTERS:** Elena Rybakina came from a set down to dismantle Jessica Pegula 4-6, 6-4, 6-3 on Friday and make the WTA Finals title clash, where the Kazakh will face either Aryna Sabalenka or Amanda Anisimova for a shot at her first season-ending crown.

World No 1 Sabalenka meets American Anisimova next at the King Saud University Sports Arena in a rematch of their US Open final in September, which the Belarusian won in straight sets to claim her fourth Grand Slam trophy. Pegula dialled up the intensity after an early exchange of breaks in the opening set, as the 2023 runner-up eased to a 4-2 lead when Rybakina appeared to struggle with accuracy due to a shoulder issue sustained during her warm-up a day earlier.

Elena Rybakina

The 31-year-old promptly closed out the first set thanks to Rybakina's 25th unforced error, but there was a sudden shift in momentum in the next set.

PRIDE OF INDIA

# Hockey legends unite for centenary celebrations

NEW DELHI, PTI

The iconic Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium came alive on Friday as Indian hockey celebrated 100 glorious years with legends of the sport, including Olympic gold medallists Gurbux Singh and Aslam Sher Khan, gracing the historic occasion.

Hockey India felicitated some of the game's most celebrated icons in recognition of their lasting contributions to the sport and for the inspiration they provided to the generations of players.

Those honoured at the ceremony included Gurbux, Aslam, Harbinder Singh, Ajith Pal Singh, Ashok Kumar, BP Govinda, Zafar Iqbal, Brigadier Harcharan Singh, Vineet Kumar, Mir Ranjan Negi, Romeo James, Asunta Lakra and Subhadra Pradhan.

Union Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya, who attended the event alongside Union Minority Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju and Tamil Nadu Deputy Chief Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin, lauded the sport's illustrious journey and its deep-rooted connection with India's sporting pride.

"The sport has seen many phases, and it was through hockey at the Olympics that we showed the world what India can achieve in sports. We have never looked back since," Mandaviya said.

"With its rich history, Indian hockey is once again rising and moving towards another Olympic medal."

The centenary celebrations began with an exhibition match between the Sports Minister's XI led by Mandaviya himself and the Hockey India XI captained by Hockey India President Dilip Tirkey.

Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya (left) felicitates hockey legend Gurbux Singh during an event marking 100 years of Indian Hockey at Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium on Friday. PTI PHOTO

The friendly yet competitive game set the tone for the day's festivities.

The Sports Minister's XI registered a 3-1 victory, with goals from Beauty Dungdung, Salima Tete and Krishna Pathak, while Manpreet Singh netted the lone goal for the Hockey India XI. The match featured a mix of players from both the men's and women's national hockey teams.

Adding to the celebrations was the launch of a commemorative book, "100 Years of Indian Hockey," chronicling the sport's century-long journey through triumphs, challenges, and revival.

A special photo exhibition showcased rare archival photographs, Olympic memories, and memorabilia tracing Indian hockey's evolution from its golden debut at the 1928 Amsterdam Olympics to its resurgence in the modern era.

Tirkey said it was deeply emotional to return to the venue where his own hockey journey began.

# King Louis wins Delhi Race Club (940) Ltd Cup

**KOLKATA RESULTS**

Neil Darashah-trained King Louis, ridden by Vishal Bunde, won the Delhi Race Club (940) Ltd Cup, the feature event of the races on Friday.

**1. Chios Handicap - 1100M:** Princess Peach (Mukesh Kumar) 1; Diamond Gold (Imran Chisty) 2; Cashaban (Nikhil Naidu) 3; Horus The Great (Vishal Bunde) 4; Wb: 5, 1-1/4, Lnk. T: 1:06.94. TB: Patrick Quinn. Fav: Princess Peach.

**2. Captain Morgan Handicap -1100M:** Enola Holmes (Abhishek Mhatre) 1; Italian Gold (Imran Chisty) 2; Marcolini (Yash Narredu) 3; City Of Joy (Vishal Bunde) 4; Wb: 5, 1-1/2:, Lnk. T: 1:06.76. TB: Neil Darashah. Fav: Star Pride.

**3. Tangaroa Handicap - 1100M:** Morano (Antony Raj) 1; Dona Sienna (Vaibhav) 2; Fast Approach (R.S.Bhati) 3; Bundle Of Charm (Vishal Bunde) 4; Wb: 3-1/2, Lnk, 4L. 1:05.96. TB: Aashay Doctor. Fav: Morano.

**4. Dalkeith Handicap - 1600M:** Aeropoli (Imran Chisty) 1; Star Studded (Yash Narredu) 2; Galway Girl (Antony Raj) 3; True Faith (J.H.Arul) 4; Wb: 1-1/2, 2-1/2, 5L. T: 1:39.07. TB: Aashay Doctor. Fav: Star Studded.

**5. Delhi Race Club (1940) Ltd Cup - 1600M:** King Louis (Vishal Bunde) 1; Sativur (Imran Chisty) 2; Rafaello (Antony Raj) 3; King Of Mafia (Yash Narredu) 4; Wb: 1/2, Nk, 5-1/2. T: 1:39.57. TB: Neil Darash. Fav: King Louis.

**6. Not Much Handicap - 2000M:** Natural Grace (Vishl Bunde) 1; Great Guns (Imran Chisty) 2; Good Deeds (Nikhil Naidu) 3; Snowpiercer (Mukehs Kumar) 4; Wb: 3/4, Shd, 2-1/2L . T: 2:16.11. TB: Neil Darashah. Fav: Main Streeet.

Bengaluru dividends

**I race:** Rs 20w; 15, 37p; Fc: Rs 58; Q: Rs 69; Shp: Rs 39; Thp: Rs 54; Tri: Rs 300 & 45; Ex: Rs 365 & 149.
**II race:** Rs 27w; 14, 40, 16p; Fc: Rs 643; Q: Rs 393; Shp: Rs 75; Thp: Rs 53; Tri: Rs 2,104 & 732; Ex: Rs 16,093 & 6,897.
**III race:** Rs 15w; 11, 15, 13p; Fc: Rs 44; Q: Rs 37; Shp: Rs 27; Thp: Rs 38; Tri: Rs 76 & 30; Ex: Rs 274 & 133.
**IV race:** Rs 78w; 10, 12, 10p; Fc: Rs 174; Q: Rs 40; Shp: Rs 33; Thp: Rs 37; Tri: Rs 229 & 118: Ex: Rs 573 & 466.
**V race:** Rs 28w; 11, 11p; Fc: Rs 42; Q: Rs 20; Shp: Rs 25; Thp: Rs 31; Tri: Rs 73 & 44; Ex: Rs 130 & 92.
**VI race:** Rs 41w; 18, 37p; Fc: Rs 377; Q: Rs 141; Shp: Rs 47; Thp: Rs 48; Tri: Rs 1,932 & 316; Ex: Rs 5,064 & 1,860.
**Jackpot:** Rs 7,174 (36). **Runner-up:** Rs 551 (201). **I treble:** Rs 166 (19). **II treble:** Rs 480 (13).

**TENDER NOTICE**

Tender for running of Tea and Snacks Stall at New Golden Palm Stn Canteen (Old RSAOI Parking), Bangalore for a period of 11 months. Interested catering vendors are invited to drop bid in Tender Box placed at Stn Cell, HQ K&K Sub Area, Cubbon Road, Bangalore-560001 latest by **25 Nov 2025** in a sealed envelop with full postal address and Mobile No. Monthly rent, electricity and water charges as applicable will be paid by the vendor.

**NOTE:** Bidders to collect application form and bid instructions from **Stn Cell, HQ K&K Sub Area, Cubbon Road, Bangalore-560001** before submitting the Bid.

ನಗರಸಭೆ
ಚಿಂತಾಮಣಿ
ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಇ-ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ KW-4, KG-1, KG-2 ದಸ್ತಾವೇಜಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ನಸಚಿ/ಆಶಾ/ಸಿಆರ್/236/2025-26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 03.11.2025 ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಪೌರಾಯುಕ್ತರು ನಗರಸಭೆ ಚಿಂತಾಮಣಿ ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಸದರಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಲು ಷರತ್ತುಗಳಿಗೆ ಒಳಪಟ್ಟು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ E-Procuerment KPPP ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದು. ವಿವಿಧ ಅನುದಾನದಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಖರೀದಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ (1) INDENT NO DMA/2025-26/OW/work indent 51200 (2) INDENT NO DMA/2025- 26/SE 6086 Call-03 (3) INDENT NO DMA/2025-26/work indent 50068 Call-02 (4) DMA/2025-26/OW /work indent 51243 (5) DMA/2025-26/ow/work indent 51242 **ಸೂಚನೆಗಳು:** (1) ಇ-ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ, ಸಮಯ: **19.11.2025 ರಂದು ಸಂಜೆ 17.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ** (2) ಇ-ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ, ಸಮಯ: **20.11.2025 ರಂದು ಸಂಜೆ 5.05 ನಿಮಿಷದ ನಂತರ ಅಥವಾ ಸದರಿ ದಿನದಂದು ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ರಜೆ ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ನಂತರದ ಕೆಲಸದ ದಿನ ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು.** (3) ಇ-ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ, ಸಮಯ: **21.11.2025 ರಂದು ಸಂಜೆ 5.05 ನಿಮಿಷದ ನಂತರ ಅಥವಾ ಸದರಿ ದಿನದಂದು ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ರಜೆ ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ನಂತರದ ಕೆಲಸದ ದಿನ ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು.**

ಸಹಿ/- ಪೌರಾಯುಕ್ತರು, ನಗರಸಭೆ, ಚಿಂತಾಮಣಿ
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ/ಆರ್.ಓ.ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:253/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿಎ/2025-26

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GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
**Karnataka Biodiversity Board**
(Forest, Ecology and Environment Dept.)
Ground Floor, Vana Vikas', 18th cross, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru - 560 003.

**Karnataka Biodiversity Award for the year 2025-26**

| Sl.No. | Name of the Award | Prize |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | In the field of Biodiversity Conservation | Each award consists of cash prize of Rs. 50,000/- and a certificate. |
| 2 | In the field of Traditional/Organic Farming practice | |
| 3 | Best Biodiversity Management Committee | |
| 4 | Best Short film on Biodiversity | |
| 5 | Vaidya Sharana Sanganna Award | |

Date of submission for the Applications is extended from **31.10.2025 to 30.11.2025.** Applications should reach the Board either by hand or by post **on or before 5:00PM of 30.11.2025.** For more details, Contact: Karnataka Biodiversity Board (Forest, Ecology and Environment Dept), Ground Floor, "VANAVIKAS", 18th Cross, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru - 03. Ph : 080- 23448783, Website: **kbb.karnataka.gov.in**

DIPR/CP/JA/3666/2025-26

इसरो isro
**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE, U.R. RAO SATELLITE CENTRE**
**CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE GROUP, HAL Airport Road, Bengaluru - 560 017**
**(Phone: 080 25084184, 4156)**
**BRIEF E-TENDER NOTICE**

| Sl.No | Description | Details | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Name of work | Civil Works for Horizontal Extension to the Existing Canteen for Stores at ISITE Campus, URSC, Marathahalli, Bengaluru-560037. | Providing Wooden Cupboard and Racks for Checkout Labs in AITF-1 Extension at ISITE Campus, URSC, Marathahalli, Bengaluru-560037. | Fabrication of Wooden Boxes and Racks for Packing and Transporting of Satellite and Allied Equipments at Main Campus and ISITE Campus, URSC, Bengaluru. |
| 2 | E-Tender Notice No. | URSC/C&MG/C/M/23/2025-26, Dt. 03.11.2025 | URSC/C&MG/C/M/24/2025-26, Dt. 03.11.2025 | URSC/C&MG/C/M/25/2025-26, Dt. 03.11.2025 |
| 3 | Estimated cost put to tender | ₹ 18.77 Lakhs | ₹ 23.11 Lakhs | ₹ 23.21 Lakhs |
| 4 | Tender Document details | E-Tender | | |
| 5 | Period of completion | THREE MONTHS | SIX MONTHS | TWELVE MONTHS |
| 6 | Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) | Rs. 37,540/- valid for 180 days | Rs. 46,220/- valid for 180 days | Rs. 46,420/- valid for 180 days |
| 7 | Period during which the tender document can be downloaded. | From 09.30 hrs on 06.11.2025 to 23.59 hrs on 20.11.2025 | | |
| 8 | Bid clarification | From 10.30 hrs on 07.11.2025 to 17.00 hrs on 21.11.2025 | | |
| 9 | Last date of reply to Bid Clarification | Up to 17.00 hrs on 24.11.2025 | | |
| 10 | Last date and time for receipt of tenders | Up to 14.30 hrs on 26.11.2025 | | |
| 11 | Due date and time of opening of tenders | 14.30 hrs Onwards on 26.11.2025 | | |

Interested tenderers may please refer Detailed Notice Inviting E-Tender (NIET) for eligibility criteria and other details along with Hindi version in website: **www.isro.gov.in** and download the tender documents from **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO.**

Sd/-,
Group Director (C&MG)

## Dhoni to play in IPL 2026

Chennai Super Kings have confirmed that Mahendra Singh Dhoni (in pic) will feature in the 2026 edition of the Indian Premier League, ending speculation over the veteran's future, reports PTI from New Delhi.

"MS has told us that he will be available for the next season," CSK CEO Kasi Viswanathan was quoted as saying by Cricbuzz.

According to the report Viswanathan has said Dhoni remains closely involved in the franchise's plans for the upcoming season.

Dhoni has been involved in the team's retention and trade discussions, with a meeting scheduled next week among key members including Viswanathan, skipper Ruturaj Gaikwad and coach Stephen Fleming ahead of the November 15 retention deadline.

The 44-year-old led CSK last year in the absence of regular skipper Ruturaj Gaikwad, though the five-time champs endured a poor campaign, finishing at the bottom of the table.

**CRICKET** FOUR-DAY GAME

# India A pacers pay back in kind to South Africa A

### Prasidh leads the rout as hosts build 112-run lead on the second day

VIGNESH BHARADWAJ
BENGALURU, DHNS

South Africa A's Lesego Senokwane is cleaned up by India A pacer Akash Deep (not seen) on the second day of their four-day match at the BCCI's CoE on Friday. DH PHOTO/ PRASHANTH HG

South Africa A skipper Marques Ackerman (134, 118b, 17x4, 5x6) headlined the second day of the second unofficial Test as he put on a batting exhibition, showing off his counter-attacking prowess with a statement hundred, carrying his side to 221 all out after a batting malfunction that saw as many as eight batters make single digit scores at the BCCI's Centre of Excellence in the outskirts of Bengaluru here on Friday.

However, Prasidh Krishna **(in pic)** (3/35), Akash Deep (2/28) and Mohammed Siraj (2/61) combined to dismantle the visitors, earning India A a 34-run lead before the batters built on it, leading South Africa by 112 runs after the hosts ended the day at 78/3 in their second innings.

KL Rahul, who negated the movement of the new ball with ease, was batting on 26 (57b, 3x4), accompanied by night watchman Kuldeep Yadav (0, 4b).

Abhimanyu Easwaran (0, 3b) endured another failure and a pair, having been dismissed for a three-ball duck in the first innings. Sai Sudharsan (23) soon fell after being trapped in front by the impressive Tiaan van Vuuren.

The No. 3 Sudharsan, who had failed to kick on after his first-innings 17, missed another chance to spend time in the middle on a good deck ahead of the South Africa series. Devdutt Padikkal (24) showed some promise but threw it away at the stroke of stumps.

Earlier on, Akash triggered an early South Africa A batting wobble by dismissing Lesego Senokwane (0) and Temba Bavuma (0), while Siraj got rid of one drop Zubayr Hamza (8), which left the visitors gasping at 12/3.

Bavuma, who would have hoped for some time in the middle before a more challenging Indian test, went after a ball that was going down the leg side as Rishabh Pant stretched to his left and took it with ease.

However, Jordan Hermann (26) and Ackerman showed some resistance, stitching a 64-run partnership, taking them to lunch at 76 for three. Hermann also counter-punched Kuldeep, smashing him for three boundaries in the 21st over.

Prasidh got the ball leaping off the surface before the break. When he returned after lunch, Hermann was guilty of playing the ball with hard hands as Rahul took a regulation catch at second slip, leaving South Africa 76 for 4.

**SCOREBOARD**

**INDIA A (I Innings):** 255 all out

**SOUTH AFRICA A (I Innings):** Jordan Hermann c Rahul b Prasidh 26 (73b, 4x5), Lesego Senokwane b Akash 0 (3b), Zubayr Hamza lbw Siraj 8 (18b, 1x4), Temba Bavuma c Pant b Akash 0 (1b), Marques Ackermann 134 (118b, 17x4, 5x6), Connor Esterhuizen lbw Prasidh 0 (2b), Tiaan van Vuuren b Kuldeep 6 (24b), Kyle Simmonds b Siraj 5 (9b, 1x4), Prenelan Subrayen (run out) Siraj 20 (30b, 2x4, 1x6), Tshepo Moreki (not out) 4 (4b), Okhule Cele b Prasidh 0 (3b). Extras (LB-8, B-9, W-1) 18. **TOTAL (all out, 47.3 overs) 221.**

**Fall of wickets:** 1-2 (Senokwane), 2-11 (Hamza), 3-12 (Bavuma), 4-76 (Hermann), 5-76 (Esterhuizen), 6-108 (Tiaan van Vuuren), 7-121 (Simmonds), 8-207 (Subrayen), 9-218 (Ackerman)

**Bowling:** Mohammed Siraj 12-3-61-2, Akash Deep 10-3-28-2, Kuldeep Yadav 11-1-66-1, Prasidh Krishna 11.3-3-35-3, Harsh Dubey 3-0-14-1

**INDIA A (II Innings):** Abhimanyu Easwaran lbw Cele 0 (3b), KL Rahul (batting) 26 (57b, 3x4), Sai Sudharsan lbw van Vuuren 23 (38b, 5x4), Devdutt Padikkal c Senokwane b Cele 24 (42b, 3x4), Kuldeep Yadav (batting) 0 (4b). Extras (LB-5). **TOTAL (for 3 wkts, 24 overs) 78.**

**Fall of wickets:** 1-5 (Easwaran), 2-40 (Sudharsan), 3-78 (Padikkal)

**Bowling:** Tshepo Moreki 9-3-20-0, Okuhle Cele 8-2-28-2, Tiaan van Vuuren 5-1-15-1, Prenelan Subrayen 2-0-10-0

## Women's ODI World Cup expanded to 10 teams

**DUBAI, PTI:** The International Cricket Council (ICC) on Friday announced that the next edition of the Women's ODI World Cup in 2029 will feature 10 teams, expanding from the existing eight-team format.

India won its first-ever global trophy in women's cricket, beating South Africa by 52 runs in the final played in Navi Mumbai on November 2.

Thousands of fans thronged the stadiums to watch action unfold, encouraging the world governing body to initiate the move.

"The ICC board, keen to build on the success of the event, agreed to expand the next edition of the tournament to 10 teams (from 8 teams in 2025)," an ICC press release stated.

"Nearly 300,000 fans watched the event in stadia breaking the record for tournament attendance for any women's cricket event. The tournament also witnessed viewership growth and new records being set for on-screen audiences across the world with nearly 500 million viewers in India," it further stated.

With cricket being reinducted into the Olympic programme in 2028 and already a part of Asian Games, it will also be included in the scheduled list of sports for the 2027 African Games in Cairo and PanAm Games 2027 in Peruvian capital of Lima.

## Hussain fights back to advance

**BENGALURU, DHNS:** Unheralded Hussian Khan of India rallied from the brink to advance to the final stage of the IBSF World Snooker Championships in Doha, Qatar late on Wednesday.

Down and out for the count at 1-3 in the do-or-die pre-quarterfinals against Richard Wienold, Hussain staged a spirited comeback to put it past the German cueist 4-3.

Even in the nervy deciding frame of the best-of-seven frame match, the Indian had to play out of skin and eventually won on the final black ball 84-72. All the quarterfinalists qualified for the final stage. Hussian joins fellow Indians Pankaj Advani and Brijesh Damani in the final stage.

# Tanay, Unnathi wear tennis crowns

BENGALURU, DHNS

Bengaluru's Tanay Babu Pai and Mandya's Unnathi V Muralidhar clinched the boys' and girls' singles titles respectively in the tennis competition of the 4th Mini Karnataka Games here on Friday.

While Tanay defeated Citymate Madhav Dadhich 6-2, 6-2 in the boys' final, Unnathi trounced Kaashvi V Konanki on Bengaluru 6–0, 6–1 to wear the girls' crown.

**Results (winners only): Boys: Kabaddi:** Uttara Kannada. **Football:** Belagavi.

**Tennis: Singles:** Tanay Babu Pai (Bengaluru). **Doubles:** Madhav Dadhich/ Tanay Babu Pai (Bengaluru).

**Volleyball:** Dakshina Kannada.

**Girls: Kabaddi:** Chikmagaluru.

**Tennis: Singles:** Unnathi V Muralidhar (Mandya).

**Doubles:** Rutvi M Mahesh/ Sanvi P Purohit (Mysuru).

Winners of the Preliminary Dressage Test in equestrian - (from left) G Shushruta Kumar (silver), Eshan Sundaram (gold) and Bhargav Babu Velkur (bronze) - at the EIRS in Mini Karnataka Games in Bengaluru on Friday.

**Volleyball:** Gadag.

**Equestrian: Introductory Dressage Test:** Mohak Naveen P (Best of Blaze, Zippy) 1; Rama Tanush Reddy (Buce, EIRS) 2; Arnav Navaratna (Best of Blaze, Zippy) 3.

**Preliminary Dressage Test:** Eshaan Sundaram (Tina, EIRS) 1; G Shushruta Kumar (XI, EIRS) 2; Bhargav Babu Velkur (Vadim, EIRS) 3.

**80 CM Show Jumping:** G Shushruta Kumar (Felotti, EIRS) 1; Diego Marren (Theo, EIRS) 2; Zoya Shanavaz (Tara, EIRS) 3.

**90–100 CM Show Jumping:** Eshaan Sundaram (Azlan Z, EIRS) 1; Arnav Navaratna (Roxette, Zippy) 2; Siddharth Nanda (Mabel, EIRS) 3.

**IN BRIEF**

## Uthappa, Chipli star for India

▸ Former India cricketer Robin Uthappa and Bharat Chipli played blazing knocks as India defeated Pakistan by two runs via DLS Method in a rain-affected Pool C match of the Hong Kong Sixes on Friday, reports PTI.

**Brief scores:** India: 86/4 in 6 overs (Robin Uthappa 28, Muhammad Shahzad 2-15) bt Pakistan: 41/1 in 3 overs. **Result:** India won by 2 runs (DLS Method). **PoM:** Robin Uthappa. **India's next match:** vs Kuwait (Nov 8, Saturday).

## Rathika enters NSW semis

▸ India's Rathika Suthanthira Seelan progressed to the semifinals of the NSW Open squash tournament with a 11-8, 11-7, 11-4 win over local challenger Karen Bloom in Sydney on Friday, reports PTI.

## Goldberg to coach Soorma

▸ Olympian Philippe Goldberg of Belgium has been appointed as head coach of Soorma Hockey Club ahead of the second season of Hockey India League, the club said on Friday, reports PTI.

# Confident Karnataka run into Maharashtra

VIGNESH BHARADWAJ
BENGALURU, DHNS

Karnataka's Karun Nair has been in roaring form this season with back-to-back centuries, including a double. DH FILE PHOTO

There is little doubt with whom the momentum is at the moment. Karnataka, riding meaty contributions from both batters and bowlers, trounced Kerala at the KCA Cricket Ground in Mangalapuram last week.

While Karun Nair and Smaran R smashed double hundreds, an in-form Vidwath Kaverappa picked up a four-for in the first innings. The two promising Karnataka spinners also found some chemistry – with Shikhar Shetty bottling up one end, that helped Mohsin Khan pick his first five-for in first-class cricket.

When Karnataka make the trip to the MCA Stadium in Pune, after the fixture was moved from Nasik, they enjoy as the mental edge in their fourth Elite Group B Ranji Trophy fixture against Maharashtra, beginning on Saturday. And the numbers are also in favour of Karnataka, especially in recent times, having won four of their last five fixtures against the hosts.

On the eve of the game, with the 22-yard strip on the drier side, it is likely to be conducive to spin as the game progresses. With no rain forecast for the fixture and the sun expected to beat down on all four days, the surface might only become slower and lower.

And with that, another question arises: Four bowlers or five? However, with Shreyas Gopal having already registered two fifties this season, Karnataka will have the luxury to play both spinners in Shikhar and Mohsin.

With Vyshak Vijaykumar picked for the India A squad for the Rising Stars Asia Cup, which is set to get underway from November 14 in Doha, a fit-again Vidyadhar Patil has joined Karnataka as his replacement.

On the other hand, Maharashtra have not been super convincing in the three games but will be a happy lot, having 10 points next to their name.

**Squad: Karnataka (probable XI):** Mayank Agarwal (c), Aneesh KV, Shrijith KL (wk), Karun Nair, Smaran R, Abhinav Manohar, Shreyas Gopal, Abhilash Shetty/M Ventakesh, Shikhar Shettty, Mohsin Khan, Vidwath Kaverappa.

**Maharashtra:** Ankeet Bawane (c), Ruturaj Gaikwad, Prithvi Shaw, Arshin Kulkarni, Siddhesh Veer, Saurabh Nawale (wk), Mandar Bhandari (wk), Jalaj Saxena, Vicky Ostwal, Ramakrishna Ghosh, Mukesh Choudhary, Pradeep Dadhe, Hitesh Walunj, Siddharth Mhatre, Harshal Kate, Rajneesh Gurbani.

# ASC draw from two goals down

BENGALURU, DHNS

Rebels FC's Dinesh S (left) scored a goal against ASC & Centre on Friday. DH PHOTO/ BK JANARDHAN

Jaishandeep Singh struck a late equaliser as ASC & Centre FC clawed back from two goals down to draw 2-2 against Rebels FC in the KSFA Super Division League Championship here at the Bangalore Football Stadium on Friday.

Kristopher Malnging got Rebels FC off to a roaring start by netting as early as in the third minute before Dinesh S doubled the advantage in the 28th minute.

ASC, who were erratic in the opening half, came out with a purpose after the interval, and Mait Shaphang Nengnong pulled one back with a 47th-minute goal. It was the catalyst they were looking for, and the Army men pursued a winner relentlessly, but their efforts were stalled by resolute Rebels defending. ASC, however, got what they wanted two minutes from regulation time with Jaishandeep finding the back of the net.

There won't be matches during the weekend with the league resuming on Monday.

**Results:** ASC & Centre FC: 2 (Mait Shaphang Nengnong 47th, Jaishandeep Singh 88th) drew with Rebels FC: 2 (Kristopher Malnging 3rd, Dinesh S 28th); Roots FC: 2 (Niranjan Rajeev 40th, Mushub Bin Yakoob 87th) bt FC Real Bengaluru: 0; Bangalore City FC: 0 drew with HAL FC: 0.

## ◆ ON TV ◆

**CRICKET**

**2nd 4-day game:** India A vs South Africa A **(day 3, 9:30 am)**. **LIVE** on **JioHotstar.**

**Fifth T20I:** Australia vs India **(1:45 pm)**. **LIVE** on **Star Sports** & **JioHotstar.**

**Hong Kong Sixers:** India vs Kuwait **(6:40 am)**. **LIVE** on **FanCode.**

**FOOTBALL**

**EPL:** Tottenham vs Man United **(6 pm)**, Everton vs Fulham, West Ham vs Burnley **(both 8:30 pm)**, Sunderland vs Arsenal **(11 pm)**, Chelsea vs Wolves **(1:30 am, Sunday)**. **LIVE** on **Star Sports Network, JioHotstar.**

**La Liga:** Girona FC vs Deportivo Alaves **(6:30 pm)**, Sevilla FC vs CA Osasuna **(8:45 pm)**, Atletico de Madrid vs Levante **(11 pm)**, RCD Espanyol vs Villarreal CF **(1:30 am, Sunday)**. **LIVE** on **FanCode.**

**MOTORSPORT**

**Formula 1:** Brazilian GP **(sprint race 7:30 pm; qualifying: 11:30 pm)**. **LIVE** on **F1 TVPro, FanCode.**

**BADMINTON**

**Korea Masters:** Semifinals **(7:30 am)**. **LIVE** on **Star Sports Network, JioHotstar.**

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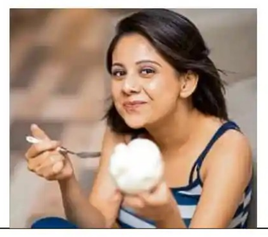
DECCAN HERALD
Saturday, November 8, 2025

# Wknd.

ADVERTORIAL & PROMOTIONAL LIFESTYLE FEATURE



## DELICACIES FOR THE WINTER

PAGE 02

## KEEP YOUR ACCESSORIES SHINING

PAGE 04

# Get rid of that slouch

Wrong postures lead to injuries that will trouble you all the time. **Jayanthi Madhukar** explains how you can get it right

## Posture Perfect

A good posture is not only self-assuring but also easy on your body. A poor posture while standing or sitting strains muscles and compounds aches and pains. Often, many pains that keep troubling you are injuries resulting from poor posture. Your posture, especially at the desk or on the sports field can even lead to repetitive stress injury if constantly wrong. It's therefore crucial to get your posture right. It is advisable to consult an expert if needed.

**Some tips to correct your posture:**

### Practice standing straight

Stand as though you are standing against the wall with your shoulders back, knees straight and belly tucked in. Hold your head straight with your chin tucked in. Your ears should be over the middle of your shoulders.

If you love your heels, wear them only when absolutely necessary. For daily use, low chunky heels are better than high heels.

### Get your sitting right

When sitting on a chair, sit all the way back. Place a lumbar cushion or a rolled-up towel behind your middle back. Your knees should be straight and at the same level as your hips. Keep your feet flat on the floor always.

As far as possible, don't slouch while sitting down. Sitting on a chair and crossing your knees is a no-no if you want to maintain a good posture.

### Talk and drive safe

When on your phone, take a minute to stretch your neck. Hold the phone to your eye level or move your eyes to look at the phone rather than moving your neck to avoid straining it.

If you are on a long road trip, sit upright and place your knees at the same level as your hip, just as when seated at your desk. Bend your knees slightly.

### Exercise protocol

Non-impact exercises are the best options to reduce belly fat. Fat around the belly strains the back and adds stress on it. Get your gym instructor to monitor your posture, especially when you are working-out with weights. Any rigorous exercise done with the wrong posture will lead to injuries.

Practicing yoga daily helps you get your posture right.

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DH DECCAN HERALD
Wknd.

# WINTER TREATS

Nuts and seeds are rich in healthy fats, minerals and protein. They help you cope with the cold

EAT RIGHT

**WEEKEND LIFESTYLE FEATURE**

## MUSHROOM SOUP

This is a great winter sip. It is rich in Vitamin B, minerals and antioxidants. This soup boosts your immune system and helps you keep the winter infections away. Equally importantly, it is easy to prepare and is a great option on busy days.

## PALAK SOUP

This easy-to-prepare soup is an all-time favourite in winter. It's versatile and can be had with any meal or even as a snack between meals. It is rich in vitamins A, C and K. Palak contains iron and prevents anaemia. It is high in fibre and low in calories. This soup also boosts bone and heart health.

**Swatee Jog** has some tongue ticklers for the season that also help you stay energetic through the cold days

# 5 delicacies for the winter

After rains for over six months, winter in India does not arrive silently - it marches in with the aroma of warm ghee, simmering broths, melting cream and crunchy street delights.

The chill in the air merits a hot meal and some dishes turn out as superstars. We view food more as a culture, token of love and an answer to cravings.

Winters just give us one more reason to indulge.

Here are five Indian dishes that spell winter in capital letters!

## Daulat ki Chaat – best part about daybreak

When winter descends upon the Gangetic plains, a magical dish appears at dawn and disappears before noon - Daulat ki Chaat. It is food that tastes like winter air itself - fluffy, cool and sweet.

Vendors begin before sunrise, whisking milk cream with dew collected on cold nights. Add a generous pinch of saffron, some powdered sugar and a dusting of crushed pistachios. It then rests under the open sky, catching the chill and forming a cloud-like froth.

You don't chew or bite it - it just melts in your mouth. A luxury only winter can offer.

## Thukpa - the only hot thing about the Himalayas

Hungry and finding yourself in a snow-draped bazaar in Leh, or a windy lane in Sikkim? You'll find comfort in a steaming bowl of Thukpa. It is the mountain folks' solution to keeping the icy winds at bay and get some instant warmth.

The recipe begins with garlic hissing in hot oil, followed by onions, carrots and greens. Add some hand-pulled noodles to a bubbling stock rich with ginger and some boiled veggies. Seasoned with Himalayan spices, it arrives at your table piping hot. You can make it easily and quickly at home.

## Gond ke Laddu — mother's winter indulgence

A hero of winters is Gond ke Laddu - a sweet treat disguised as health food. Edible gum (gond), when deep-fried, turns into snowy nuggets. They are mixed into a warm blend of whole wheat flour roasted in ghee, along with an assortment of roasted nuts, coconut, jaggery and cardamom.

The dough is rolled into soft laddus that strengthen joints, improve immunity and satisfy every sweet tooth. What's more, they stay fresh for a long time too and hence travel far and wide.

North Karnataka's Kardant is a delightful cousin of these laddus sans the flour and comes in a brick shape.

## Ram Laddu — Delhi's best-kept secret is now out

Delhi winters breed cravings and Ram Laddus are the crunchy answer. No, they're not your regular sweet laddus - they're deep-fried balls of moong and chana dal turned into crisp golden fritters.

At street corners, you'll spot vendors dishing them fresh from hot oil, smashing them slightly, mixed with dollops of mint and date chutney and a generous dash of grated radish to go with it.

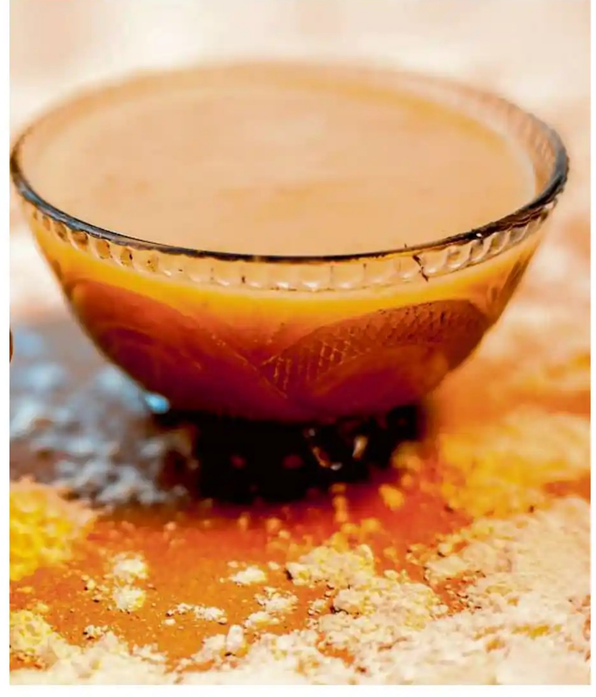
The cold fog mixes with the heat of the fritters... the warmth travels from your fingertips straight to your heart.

## Raab — western India's soulful drink

In the desert, days may be sweltering hot but winter chills arrive quietly and bite deep. That's when Raab comes to the rescue - a creamy, earthy winter tonic from Rajasthan and Gujarat.

Bajra (pearl millet) flour is slow-cooked in buttermilk or curd until thick and soothing, then infused with jaggery or spices. The longer it simmers, the richer it becomes. Farmers sip it before heading into the early morning chill - it warms from within and keeps energy steady throughout the day.

In winters, make hay while the sun shines, literally. That hay could well be made in the kitchen, and delicious too.



## LEISURE

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### JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

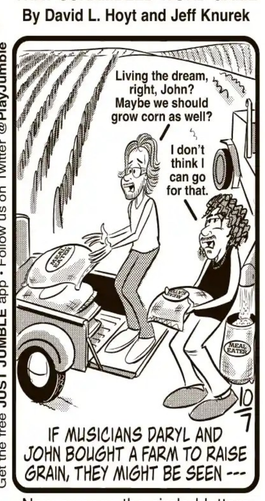
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

BTEAA

SULOY

CICHTE

SENENU


Living the dream, right, John? Maybe we should grow corn as well?
I don't think I can go for that.
IF MUSICIANS DARYL AND JOHN BOUGHT A FARM TO RAISE GRAIN, THEY MIGHT BE SEEN ---

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: ____ ____

Answers: ABATE LOUSY HECTIC UNSEEN
If musicians Daryl and John bought a farm to raise grain, they might be seen — HAULIN' OATS

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### HITORI-121

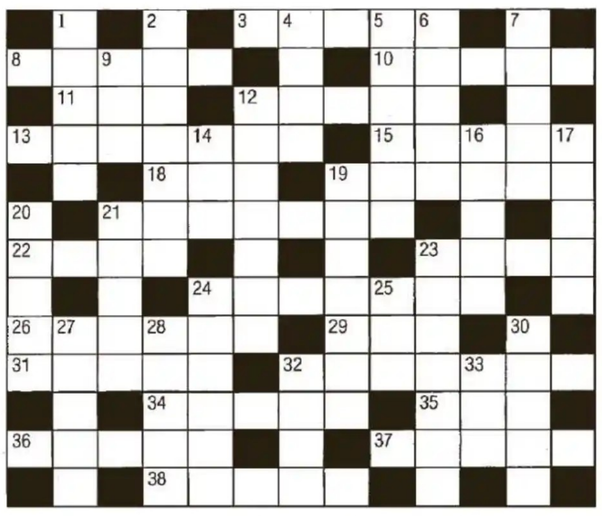
| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | 7 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 8 | 3 | 6 |
| 7 | 3 | 7 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 1 |
| 2 | 4 | 7 | 6 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 5 |
| 5 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 3 |
| 7 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 1 | 5 | 8 |
| 6 | 5 | 7 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 2 |
| 8 | 5 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| 3 | 1 | 8 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 7 |

SOLUTION for HITORI-121

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | 6 | ■ | 5 | 2 | 8 | 1 | 3 |
| 4 | ■ | 2 | 1 | ■ | 5 | ■ | 8 |
| 2 | 4 | ■ | 3 | 7 | ■ | 5 | 6 |
| 8 | ■ | 1 | 7 | ■ | 2 | 4 | ■ |
| 3 | 7 | 6 | ■ | 1 | 8 | 2 | 5 |
| 5 | ■ | 8 | 3 | ■ | 7 | ■ | 2 |
| 1 | 5 | 4 | ■ | 6 | ■ | 3 | 7 |
| 6 | ■ | 3 | 2 | 8 | ■ | 7 | 4 |

**To solve the puzzle:** Eliminate numbers by filling in squares so that remaining cells in that row or column do not repeat that number more than once. Filled-in cells cannot be horizontally or vertically adjacent. The un-filled cells must form a single component connected horizontally and vertically.

### CROSSWORD CHALLENGE 122



**EASY**

**ACROSS**
3. Coagulates (5)
8. Rot (5)
10. Gangway (5)
11. Beam of light (3)
12. Courage (5)
13. Sea creature (7)
15. Happening (5)
18. Pinch (3)
19. Girl's name (6)
21. Say in passing (7)
22. Sharpen (4)
23. Nuisance (4)
24. Wash and iron (7)
26. Original (6)
29. Swindle (3)
31. The Devil (5)
32. Statesman (7)
34. Religious images (5)
35. Not high (3)
36. Culpability (5)
37. Drinking tube (5)
38. Paces (5)

**DOWN**
1. Compassion (5)
2. Rifle attachment (7)
4. Sediment (4)
5. Inn (6)
6. Strainer (5)
7. Antelope (5)
9. Feline (3)
12. Conjugal (7)
14. Narrow brooch (3)
16. Go in (5)
17. Flavour (5)
19. Springs (7)
20. Exchanges (5)
21. Deserve (5)
23. Punishment (7)
24. Surgical knife (6)
25. Put on (3)
27. Recover strength (5)
28. Mutilates (5)
30. Mountain ash (5)
32. Card game (4)
33. Hill (3)

**CRYPTIC**

**ACROSS**
3 Quietly take tea in central Bisley (5)
8 Set out with a warm-hearted bright fellow (5)
10 Human possibility of being a prophet (5)
11 It helps the wheels go round (3)
12 White rock? (5)
13 Clarify what is no longer easily understood (7)
15 It makes me talk endlessly – usually a hard thing (5)
18 Not much of a part (3)
19 Alias Marian (6)
21 An extra fish, I see, for one pound (7)
22 Having good ventilation, like a first-class railway (4)
23 Concert piece that never fails (4)
24 Made me tired, but was worth it! (7)
26 A bit of a bloomer (6)
29 Many points are adult (3)
31 Canadian territory bigger than the UK (5)
32 Suitable rhyme for scanties (7)
34 Later form of the honey badger (5)
35 Outrageous bit of behaviour? (3)
36 Growing evidence that I'm within call, perhaps (5)
37 A tune with "beat" and energy (5)
38 To be honest, it's flat (5)

**DOWN**
1 Be inquisitive about love and a kiss with a deputy (5)
2 An all-round collector of sports equipment (4,3)
4 Change one's act (4)
5 Form of life at large in Manila? (6)
6 Intoxicating Elgar composition (5)
7 Anybody can answer this clue! (5)
9 Peripheral damage? (3)
12 Person with the key, it is said, to some enigma (7)
14 Help to get a first-class figure (3)
16 It turns red when nearly exhausted (5)
17 The ordinary people of Italy (5)
19 The least you can get from little Malcolm (7)
20 She's a Welshman's to the very end! (5)
21 Sound of the wild corncrake deprived of food (5)
23 London's heart line (7)
24 Points a weapon out as a threat (6)
25 Group of listeners (3)
27 Place one in "4 Down" (5)
28 Many have spoken of such a victory (5)
30 She has the heart to urge people on (5)
32 Mountain dog, we're told? (4)
33 Valiant Scot, perhaps (3)

**SOLUTIONS TO CROSSWORD CHALLENGE 122**

**CRYPTIC**
**ACROSS:** 3. S-tea-l 8. Ar-Ray 10. Nahum 11. Oil 12. Craig 13. Explain 15. Me-tal 18. Bit 19. Marina 21. Cod-ic-i-L 22. Al-Ry. 23. Cert 24. Merited 26. Stamen 29. M-EN 31. V-UK-on 32. Panties 34. Rated 35. Rag 36. L-I-lac 37. Tan-go 38. Level.
**DOWN:** 1. Pr-OX-y 2. Ball boy 4. Turn 5. Animal 6. Lager 7. Human 9. Rip 12. C-itiz-en 14. Al-D 16. Ti-red 17. Laity 19. MinMal 20. Dai'S-y 21. Creak 23. Central 24. M-EN-ace 25. Ten 27. Tur-i-n 28. M-oral 30. P-egg-y 32. Peke (peak) 33. Ian.

**EASY**
**ACROSS:** 3. Clots; 8. Decay; 10. Aisle; 11. Ray; 12. Nerve; 13. Octopus; 15. Event; 18. Nip; 19. Brenda; 21. Mention; 22. Whet; 23. Pest; 24. Launder; 26. Primal; 29. Con; 31. Satan; 32. Senator; 34. Icons; 35. Low; 36. Blame; 37. Straw; 38. Steps.
**DOWN:** 21. Mercy; 2. Bayonet; 4. Lees; 5. Tavern; 6. Sieve; 7. Eland; 9. Cat; 12. Nuptial; 14. Pin; 16. Enter; 17. Taste; 19. Bounces; 20. Swaps/Swops; 21. Merit; 23. Penalty; 24. Lancet; 25. Don; 27. Rally; 28. Malms; 30. Rowan; 32. Snap; 33. Tor.

# Wknd. Fashion

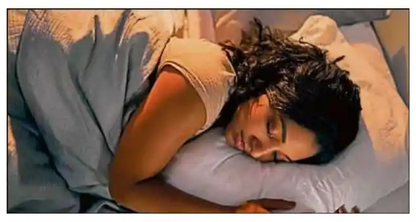
A facial oil in the evenings through winter helps lock in the moisture

WINTER WISE

## WEEKEND LIFESTYLE FEATURE

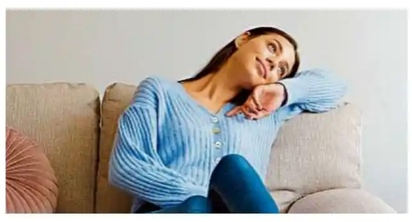
### SLEEP MAKES A DIFFERENCE

One of the adverse impacts of sleep deprivation is poor skin health. You need adequate sleep every night. The skin heals and repairs itself during sleep. Skin health is also dependent on the quality of sleep you get. It is therefore advisable to address sleep issues early.



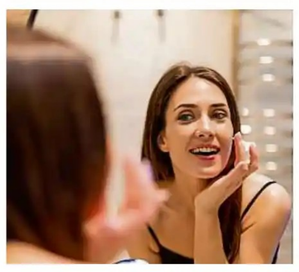
### SIMPLE SKINCARE TIPS

It will help to have a humidifier indoors. This is especially so if dry air is affecting your skin. Thought it's tempting to bathe with hot water in the winter months, it's better to use lukewarm water. Exfoliate gently to remove dry skin just once a week. Applying a hand cream daily helps.



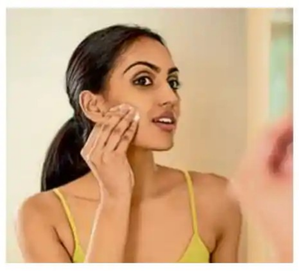
Winter **Care**

**Prep right**



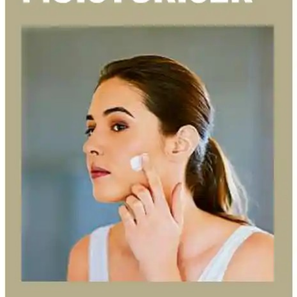
It's critical to prep your skin for moisture through the winter months. A hydrating toner is a good option. Ideally, go for one with hyaluronic acid. Along with hydration it also improves the texture of your skin. Hydration is as important in the winter as in any other season.

**Cleanse gently**



Through the winter days, use a hydrating or cream-based cleanser. This is a better option than foam. Look for ingredients such as ceramides and glycerine in your cleanser. They are efficient moisturisers – just what you need this season.

**HEAVY ON MOISTURISER**



It is advisable to use thick creams in the winter months. A thick cream seals in the moisture in the skin, giving your skin the hydration it needs. Choose one with shea butter as an ingredient. Shea butter contains fatty acids and improves the skin's quality as a natural barrier.

**SUNSCREEN IS A MUST**

Even though the days of harsh sunlight are over, you still need to use sunscreen daily. Just as in the summer, the sun's UV rays damage the skin. If you are outdoors for long spells through the day, you must protect your skin with a sunscreen with an SPF of at least 30. Sunscreen is only for the harsh summer days is a myth.

**Healthy diet**

The golden rules governing diet and sleep apply in the winter months too. Ensure a healthy diet with seasonal vegetables and fruits. Hot soups give you the benefits of nutrition and hydration. Plenty of fluids keeps your skin hydrated from the inside. Consult a dietician and get a customised diet plan.

# High on style

**Shilpi Madan** has some tips to help you pump up your everyday fashion quotient

Fashion **Notes**

Your calendar has been buzzing with invitations for parties and get togethers with family and friends. With party dressing going into overdrive, here are cues to keep in mind for everyday elegant dressing, covering online meetings, coffee meet-ups, impromptu hangouts and more. Make way for stylish convertibles to transition easily from work to gatherings.

**Kurti calling**

The beauty of the Indian slip-on is the rush of colours you can bring in a traditional pick in modern format and team it with jeans, shorts, cargoes and skirts. From fuchsia pinks to forest greens, pastel blues and smoky greys, the kurti brings in the quickest, most elegant way to express Indian dressing.

Bring on the chikankari, sequins and shine.

**Flowing right**

Languid cuts in long dresses that end below your knees set the tone for cool, comfortable style. Choose a neutral shade in ivory, pink, lavender or deeper hues in grapefruit, wine, marsala to rev up with accessories and kitten heels, embroidered juttis, wedges or pearl grid slip-ons.

**Trinket picks**

Keep a pair of dangling earrings handy in your bag. A chunky bracelet, an interesting neckpiece, antique rings, a delicate anklet work beautifully in elevating your appearance. Even a bejewelled hairband or a dangler on your handbag adds to your appearance. Nothing revs up your appearance like a spangle of gold. Accentuate with a burnished lipstick, a bronzer along your cheekbones, highlighter, or tinsel in your hair. An element of sparkle and shine raises your glam appeal by several notches.

**KEEP IN MIND**

- Less is more. A pair of golden hoops with a stunning lip colour is enough to rev up your look
- Bright colours work their magic on the dullest of days
- Make use of non-crushables to stay cool and comfortable throughout the day
- Carry a spray of your favourite fragrance. It never lets you down
- Gloss works its magic beautifully in adding appeal to your lips

# Elixir for glowing skin and lustrous hair

The traditional coconut oil has many therapeutic benefits. **Shilpi Madan** lists out a few

Coco **Wellness**

The goodness of the kernel of a coconut has long been championed. In its pure form, coconut oil is the best elixir for amazing skin and hair. Here are ways in which you can maximise the benefits of the oil and shine on bright.

**Pull it**

Before you brush your teeth, or floss in the morning, swirl a dash of cold pressed coconut oil inside your mouth for a few minutes. It fobs off odour and the unwanted bacteria, bettering gum and tooth health.

By practising this 'oil pulling' daily, you activate salivary enzymes which then absorb the chemical, bacterial and environmental toxins that are potential deal-breakers of your immunity. Coconut oil works as a superb detoxifier, making you flash perfect pearlies.

**Scalp shots**

Feed your follicles. Being lightweight and rich in zinc, Vitamin K and Vitamin E, coconut oil is perfect for building strand health and strength. You can keep your scalp germ-free by warming a bit of coconut oil and massaging it gently into your scalp for improved blood circulation. Non-greasy, you can leave it in overnight for best impact as coconut oil is also a cool frizz tamer and healer of damaged hair.

**Make-up remover**

The gentlest way to work off the eye and face make-up is by applying coconut oil in slow circular motion and then wiping off with a damp cotton pad. Follow up with a facewash. With the onset of winter, the skin grows thinner and feels dehydrated, taut and stretchy, especially as you grow older. The use of coconut oil ensures your skin stays hydrated.

Apply a little coconut oil on your face after you wake up, till the time you step into your shower.

**Sole soother**

Having trouble falling asleep at night? Apply a bit of warm coconut oil on the soles of your feet and then wear cotton socks before you doze off like a baby. The application is known for its therapeutic impact, and alleviating sleep anxiety. This practice also takes care of any germs that may have parked themselves on your feet through the day.

**Sip up**

A teaspoon of virgin coconut oil when ingested on an empty stomach forms the healthy lining inside your stomach, especially if you are prone to getting acid reflux. Gentle and calming, it cups your insides with its therapeutic properties before you commence with your day. You can also add a dot of cold pressed coconut oil to your coffee for a superstar taste.

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Cotton garment bags keep your fabrics safe when put away for a long time

PACK SMART

WEEKEND LIFESTYLE FEATURE

## PREVENT SCRATCHES

Avoid packing all your jewellery together in one tight box. Protect each delicate piece with a soft cloth or tissue to ensure they aren't scratched by hooks or clasps of other pieces. Clean them thoroughly first and ensure all remnants of lotions etc are removed before storing them.

## SHOE HACK

Clean your shoes thoroughly and polish leather ones before putting them away. Avoid storing shoes in plastic bags. Preferably keep them stored in a dry place completely free of moisture. Cedar shoe inserts help if you are keeping them away for a long time.

# Some tips to keep your accessories shining

**Shilpi Madan** explains how you can put your accessories away safely while the season changes

Stash Away

### Store them safe

The winter is here and it's time to put away the last of your summer wear. Some care while storing your clothes and accessories will ensure they remain in good condition when you pull them out in the summer of 2026. These tips will help you ensure they don't spoil with fungus or fall into disrepair.

### WASH FIRST

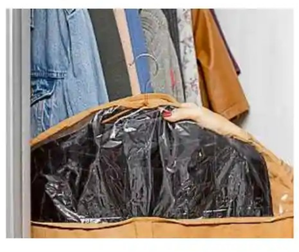
Get all your clothes meant to be stored cleaned thoroughly. Dry clean expensive garments. Ensure there's absolutely no residue of perfume, lotions etc still sticking to the garments. It will help to store coats in covers. Avoid sharp folds if possible. Check on them once a fortnight if packed in cases.

### PEST REPELLENTS

It is advisable to keep some pest repellents along with clothes you are storing for a long time. Choose natural repellents. They are easy on your expensive garments. Lavender sachets and cloves are good choices to keep moths away. Avoid air-tight cases.

### Sort by material

Store different materials separately. Keep your silk and other delicate fabrics together while the heavy rough ones can be elsewhere. Different fabrics and materials need specific conditions to stay safe till the next year. This is especially so in case of shoes and headgear.



### RIGHT CONTAINERS

Ideally, your summer clothes should be stored in breathable fabric bags. Cotton garment bags are the most recommended option. These bags keep the musty odour away. They also prevent mold from infesting your clothes. Ensure your storage spaces are dry. Damp storage spaces attract insects.

Jewel Box

You're loving pairing your outfits with jewellery. Before you toss them aside along with your shoes and bags as the season changes, consider these few tips to make them stay shiny and stunning for longer.

### Store dry

Store your bijouterie in an airtight container where moisture cannot seep in. A transparent, sectioned plastic box works well in storing a multitude of rings, bracelets and earrings. Keep pearls separately as they tend to develop scratches when stored with others. Crystals are fragile and must be packed solo as well.

### Pad up

Make use of a cotton pad to rest the jewels on or make use of independent zip lock pouches. This prevents marks and tangles on individual pieces as they are wrapped separately. Use a clean tissue paper or a micro fibre cloth (that comes in spectacle cases) to line the bottom of the storage box before you keep the bijouterie in

### Stay clean

Remember to remove your jewellery before you step into the shower, or dive into the swimming pool or tub. It is a good idea to remove your jewellery before you take to yoga, the gymnasium, Pilates, running or playing a sport.

Any form of exercise brings on sweat that affects the lustre of your jewellery in the long run. For the same reason, avoid spraying fragrance on your accessories, or applying lotions, creams and oils after you have worn them.

### Shoe closet

Use a dehumidifier to keep your shoe closet moisture-free, or else fungus begins to set in on your footwear. Always wipe off the dust and grime with a clean cloth, ensuring your shoes are dry, before you put them away in separate linen bags.

Keep airing and checking on pairs you haven't worn in a while as they tend to peel off. Place an air freshener in your shoe closet.

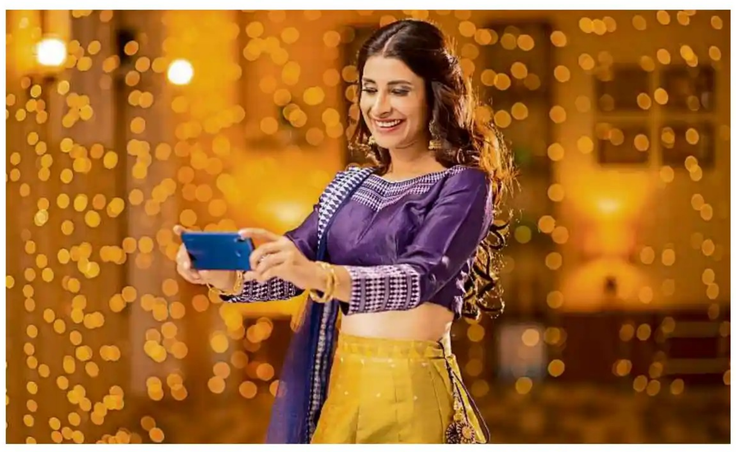
### Bag it

Store each purse separately in linen bags, using crumpled paper to stuff in to retain form and shape. Use spot cleaners to make sure the light-coloured purses are blemish-free after each outing.

Avoid leaving anything that might leak – pens, fragrances, uncapped lip colours etc in your clutches before you put them away.

# Festive ensembles fresh for next year

Worried your special festive ensembles will lose sheen? **Shilpi Madan** has some tips



Stash Away

You can't dry-clean your Indian special festive ensembles after every wear. Wondering how to keep the finery looking fresh for the next wear? Here are some cues.

### Keep them out

The moment you change out of your special festive clothes, turn them inside out and leave them exposed to the air, preferably under the fan, overnight, or where there is natural light spilling into your home. The sweat dissipates and the fragrance you used slowly disengages itself from the clothes when you leave them hanging in a well-ventilated area.

Shake the garments to knock off any dust that might have accumulated. Hard pressed for time? Make use of a hair dryer to air them out.

### Patch control

If you managed to soil the clothes – a dot of curry, or an ungainly sweat patch - dust lightly with talcum powder on the affected area, and leave the garment exposed to air and light. The powder prevents the stain from setting in. You can spot wash gently with a tiny brush – the size of a toothbrush - and watch the spot fade.

Before you do this, ensure you hold the spotted part below with the other hand, to prevent the stain from running into the other side of the garment.

### Iron alert

Choose steam ironing, unless you are in a time pinch. In this case, reverse the fabric and gently iron quickly on the insides to remove the creases. Remember to store garments separately in breathable linen bags. Check on them time and again to ensure sitting spots do not darken over days.

For fabrics with sequins, embroidery, pearls and zari work, always store them folded inside out to protect the embellishments from disengaging or threads from getting pulled.

### Scent in

Remember to hang air fresheners and potpourri pouches in your wardrobes and even shoe closets. This prevents a musty smell from latching onto your treasured possessions.

For footwear, remember to rub the dirt spots on the heels away with a moist cloth. Always store your belongings dry, to prevent fungus patches from developing.

# Comfort at the corner

A cosy corner at home - your very own sanctuary - helps you unwind, nurture creativity and inspires a sense of calm. **Deepa Natarajan Lobo** gets two experts to share some insights on how you can create one

Home Front

In today's fast-paced world, the home has become more important than ever - a personal sanctuary where you can slow down, relax and recharge. Within these safe havens, creating cosy corners offers a quiet escape from the noise of the outside world, doing wonders for your creativity, peace of mind and overall well-being.

Cosy corners are small nooks thoughtfully designed to wrap you in comfort. They don't require big spaces or big budgets. Instead, a few personal touches can turn any corner of your home into a haven of warmth and calm. Two experts – Belinda Fernandez, art consultant and curator, and Priyanka Goswami, interior designer, share practical tips on how to transform a space into a snug spot.

### Choose the right nook

"Cosy corners don't need large spaces - just thoughtful touches", says Belinda. "Choose a quiet nook with good natural light, add a comfortable chair, soft throws and warm lighting with a floor lamp or fairy lights," she advises.

Layering textures with cushions, rugs, or woven baskets creates a sense of depth and comfort. "Think of it as your personal retreat, a corner that hugs you when you sit down," she adds.

### Dash of art and sculpture

Belinda emphasises the important role art plays in enhancing intimate spaces, encouraging homeowners to incorporate artwork into their cosy corners - not just for visual charm, but to stimulate creativity and promote mental clarity.

"Art shapes energy. A calming painting, vibrant abstract or a tactile sculpture can spark creativity and set the tone of the room. Sculptures add depth, making a simple corner feel like an experience. When art surrounds you, productivity follows, because beauty has a way of nudging the brain into flow," she states.

### Festive touch

Priyanka Goswami encourages homeowners to infuse their corners with rustic colours and chunky decor adding a dash of sparkle to the space.

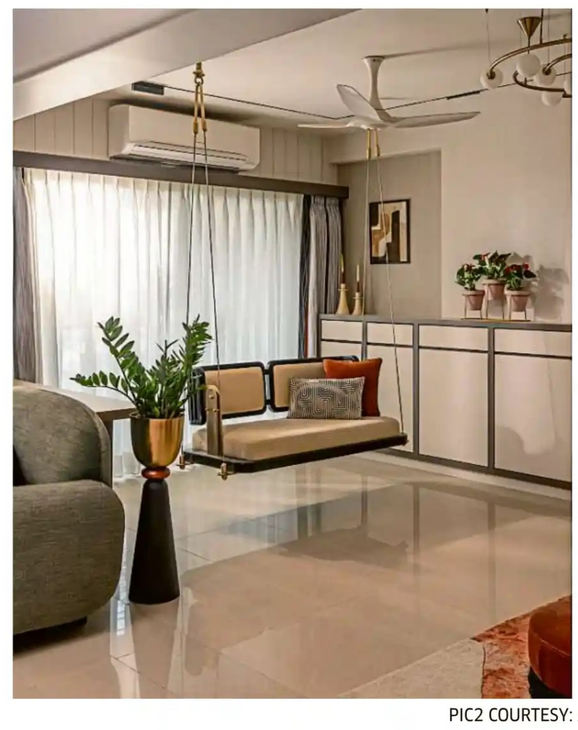
"Any quiet corner can be transformed into a warm, celebratory space by keeping just a few simple things in mind. Start with layered lighting - combine fairy lights, lanterns and a soft table lamp to create a glow that feels both intimate and festive. Add plush textiles like velvet cushions, chunky throws or a patterned rug to bring in texture and comfort," she reveals.

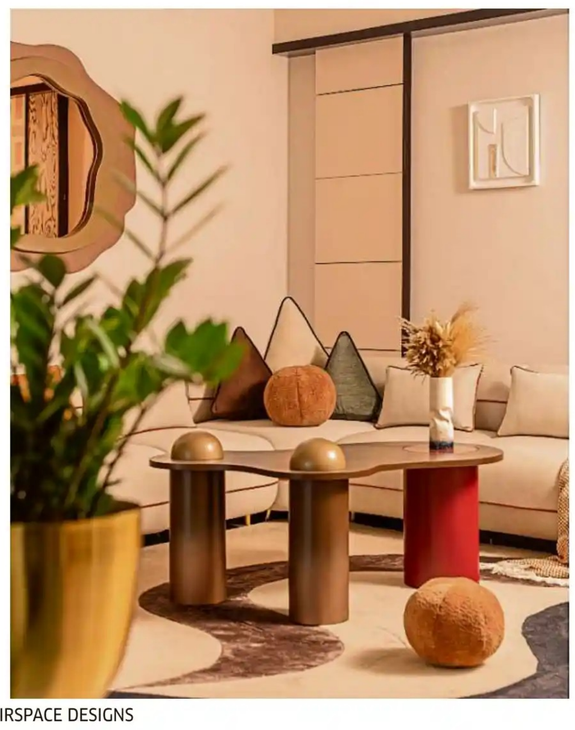
Priyanka also recommends jewel tones such as deep maroon, emerald or mustard to give a seasonal touch to the space.

### Easy on the pocket

Not everyone wants to spend a fortune to create a comforting home corner. Belinda offers simple solutions.

"You don't have to spend big to make a home feel warm. Rearrange existing furniture, repurpose jars as candle holders or frame your children's artwork for a personal touch. Add indoor plants for freshness. Cosiness is not about cost - it's about care. Small personal details can transform a house into a hug."





PIC2 COURTESY: AIRSPACE DESIGNS

## Nandhana Palace in Singasandra

Nandhana Palace, the traditional Andhra-style vegetarian and non-vegetarian restaurant, opened a new branch in Singasandra. This is the 29th branch of Nandhana Palace. Ramalinga Reddy, Minister for Transport and Muzrai, along with Satish Reddy, MLA, inaugurated the restaurant in the presence of Dr R Ravichander, Managing Director, Nandhana Palace.


## NOTICE OF LOSS OF SHARE CERTIFICATES

Notice is hereby given that the following share certificate(s) issued by ASM TECHNOLOGIES LTD BANGALORE are stated to have been lost or misplaced and the registered share holder(s) applied for issue of duplicate share certificate(s)

| FOLIO NO | REGISTERED SHARE HOLDER(S) | CERT NO | DIST FROM | DIST TO | EQUITY SHARES |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ASM 00 2423 | MOHINIBAI MOOTHA | 104938 | 9925471 | 9926570 | 100 |
| | | 104938 | 1745001 | 1746100 | 100 |

Any person who has/have a claim in respect of the said certificate(s) should lodge his/her/their claim with all supporting documents with the Company or Kfin Technologies Ltd, Selenium Tower B, plot 31-32, Gachibowli, financial district, Hyderabad-500032. If no valid and legitimate claim is received within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice, the Company will proceed to issue duplicate share certificate(s) to the share holder(s) listed above and no further claim would be entertained from any other person(s).

Date:08-11-2025
Place: RAICHUR

MOHINIBAI MOOTHA
Name of the shareholder